

Britain supports Mideast conference

ABU DHABI, Oct. 24, (Agencies): Britain strongly supports an international Middle East peace conference and believes Israel's policies are misguided, visiting British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, William Waldegrave said today. He told reporters in Abu Dhabi, a conference must be the first objective.

Israel's efforts to contain a Palestinian uprising through force had gone too far, he said. "Their policy leads nowhere. I think Britain's role, as often, is that while we are a member of the European Economic Community, we also have very close relations with the United States and ... we could bring them to see that Israel must respond," he said.

Powerful
The United States, which has a powerful Jewish lobby, and the Soviet Union have also backed a conference but do not agree on its form. Waldegrave said Britain's relations with the region, especially the United Arab Emirates of which Abu Dhabi is part, remained very good.

Meanwhile, a London daily reported that the US has dropped its long-standing opposition to Soviet involvement in Middle East peace talks.

The Independent newspaper quoted the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, Vladimir Petrovsky, as saying that an "international consensus" was developing on a multilateral approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In an interview with the London-based daily Petrovsky said the world "map of crisis situations (was) being filled with solutions." He added: "The Middle East is the only exception, and ... it is also pressing for resolution."

Refused
Petrovsky refused to comment on details of talks last month between the foreign ministers of the five permanent UN Security Council members, but "hinted that Washington is preparing to renounce its go-it-alone policy towards the (Arab-Israeli) conflict," said the Independent.

Joan leaves 300,000 homeless

111 killed in six-day rampage of hurricane

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Oct. 24, (AP): Hurricane Joan killed at least 50 people and left 300,000 homeless in its rampage across Nicaragua, officials said yesterday. Rain drenched the country while the government tried to organise rescue efforts and restore communications.

The storm left another 21 people dead in Costa Rica and four dead in Panama, bringing the death toll for its six-day rampage across the Caribbean to at least 111. Twenty-five people died in Colombia and 11 were killed in Venezuela.

Joan slowly weakened into a tropical storm over Nicaragua but strengthened again when it

reached the Pacific Ocean. Because it was no longer an Atlantic hurricane, it was given a new name in the sequence of this year's Pacific storms: Tropical storm Miriam.

Sustained
At 0000 GMT today, Miriam was about 50 miles (80 kilometres) south-southeast of San Salvador, El Salvador, with maximum sustained winds of about 55 miles (88 kilometres) per hour, according to the US national hurricane centre in Florida. The hurricane centre said the storm was moving in a westerly-northwest direction at 10 miles (16 kilometres) per hour. Hurricane Joan blasted into

the east coast Nicaraguan city of Bluefields with 125-mph (200 kph) winds early on Saturday and marched across the country of 3 million, leaving a trail of death and destruction before reaching Managua, the capital, late on Saturday.

Most of the capital was without electricity last night, and service was not expected to be restored for several days. A group of 140 Sandinista Army troops reported missing near Rama, 85 miles (136 kilometres) east of Managua, was located yesterday. Col. Roberto Calderon said. Eighty soldiers were rescued from areas adjoining rain-swollen rivers and

another 60 had sought higher ground, he said.

Officials said there were 21 dead in Bluefields, 180 miles (290 kilometres) east of Managua. The city of about 38,000 was reported 90 per cent destroyed.

Enough
Mario Tapia, an Associated Press photographer, said yesterday in Bluefields that only a few buildings were left standing. A Red Cross nurse told him, "there isn't enough left of the houses to make a fire."

Officials worried about food supplies and lack of sanitation facilities. The bodies of rats littered the streets. Most of the people in the area rely on fishing for

their living, and many boats were destroyed.

Bluefields, Corn Island off Nicaragua's eastern coast and the southeastern Atlantic coast region "practically disappeared from the map," the Managua daily El Nuevo Diario said yesterday.

The storm felled trees, electrical towers and telephone lines as it ripped into Managua. Britain yesterday announced £10,000 (\$17,600) in emergency aid for Nicaragua.

A Foreign Office spokesman said in London the possibility of further assistance would be considered today by the overseas aid department.

Bush and Dukakis open final flurry of campaign

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24, (Reuters): With just 16 days to go to the election, the presidential candidates today opened a final flurry of campaigning with George Bush opting for press-the-flesh personal appearances and Michael Dukakis hitting the nation's television screens.

Before Bush left on a foray into new England, home territory of Dukakis, Governor of Massachusetts, his aides rejected charges of distortion and racism from supporters of the Democratic candidate.

Comfortable
Bush, the Republican candidate, maintains a comfortable lead in opinion polls and took yesterday off to refresh himself before beginning non-stop campaigning until the Nov 8 poll.

Dukakis campaigned in California, vital because it has the country's largest number of electoral votes, which actually determine the winner of a presidential election.

Dukakis backers planned a major television push to counter what they considered a negative campaign by Bush.

They promised lengthy television interviews as well as a flurry of hard-hitting short commercials to lift Dukakis in the polls in which he has been stuck with about a 10-point deficit for weeks.

Suggestions
On Sunday, Dukakis, disturbed by a survey that showed him with significantly less support among blacks than 1984 Democratic loser Walter Mondale, met in Boston with black leaders, including the Reverend Jesse Jackson.

Drive against Sikh separatists

CHANDIGARH, India, Oct. 24, (Reuters): Indian security forces have launched a fresh drive in the northern state of Punjab against Sikh separatists they accuse of resorting to extortion to keep their cause alive, police said today.

They said sweeps through districts around the Sikh holy city of Amritsar over the past five days had netted 60 militants or people accused of hiding separatists, who have regrouped after serious losses and resumed killing people in large numbers.

At least 44 people were killed over the weekend, many of them

Dukakis said only that the meeting was candid and the black leaders "made good suggestions about the closing couple of weeks."

But Jackson charged the Bush campaign included "a number of rather blatantly race-conscious signals that had the impact of instilling underground fear in whites and alienation in blacks."

Bush has appeared to win support with an ad criticising a Massachusetts programme that allowed a black convicted murderer, Willie Horton, who then raped a woman and assaulted her husband.

Strong

"The focus has been on these kinds of strong and rather sinister attacks by this administration," Jackson said, adding his personal resentment that during the primary campaign Bush had called him a "three-headed monster" and a "Chicago hustler."

Bush campaign spokesman Mark Goodin denied the charge of racism. "It strikes me that Reverend Jackson must be hallucinating or something."

He said the issue "has never been Willie Horton. It has always been how he got out of prison."

However, other Dukakis backers joined in claiming racial overtones in the Bush campaign, including Senator Lloyd Bentsen, Dukakis's choice as vice president.

"When you add it up, I think there is (racism in the campaign)," he said in a television interview. "And that's unfortunate. I just don't want to see this election won on that kind of packaging, on that kind of distortion."

Yugoslav leaders pledge to create party unity

BELGRADE, Oct. 24, (Reuters): Yugoslavia's communist leaders have pledged to strengthen federal power and create party unity to save their country from its worst political crisis since World War Two.

The party's policy-making central committee published an action plan yesterday which ordered increased preparations for a party congress, due to be held next year.

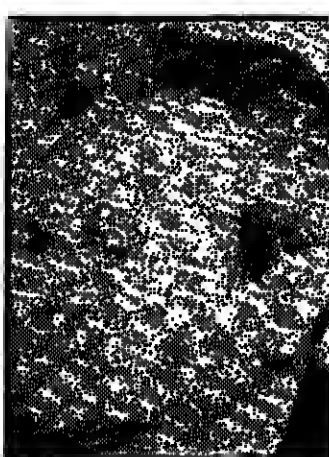
The document said immediate tasks were reform of the economy, Yugoslav unity, social discipline, greater restraint by the media and top-level personnel changes in the party itself.

It also called for a unified Yugoslav party in an attempt to stop the erosion of central power in a country made up of six republics and two autonomous provinces.

Crisis
Yugoslavia is divided by regional and ethnic quarrels, fuelled by an economic crisis which has seen inflation rise to an annual rate of 217 per cent.

Since the death in 1980 of President Josip Broz Tito, who ruled unchallenged for 35 years, central authority has deteriorated under a collective leadership as ethnic and regional rivalries resurfaced.

Yugoslav political analysts said that, the document was a compromise for Serbian Communist Party chief Slobodan Milosevic who has been pushing for economic changes and more political power for Serbia, the



Milosevic country's biggest republic.

They said it should appease him by endorsing economic reform and committing the party to an urgent solution of the ethnic conflict between Albanians and the Serb minority in the autonomous province of Kosovo.

Curb
However it should curb Milosevic by insisting on unity, discipline, the cooling of nationalist tempers and an end to mudslinging in the press, the analysts said.

Millions of Serbs have, with Milosevic's blessing, taken to the streets demanding sackings, reforms and greater Serbian control over Kosovo and the province of Vojvodina.

The two provinces are part of Serbia but have almost complete autonomy.

2 killed, 40 injured in S. African blast

JOHANNESBURG, Oct. 24, (Reuters): A car bomb devastated a shopping centre today, killing two people and injuring at least 40, two days before South Africa holds segregated local elections.

The blast rocked the OK Shopping Centre in the mining town of Witbank, 145 km (90 miles) east of Johannesburg, during the morning rush hour.

It mowed down scores of pedestrians, lifted roofs off buildings and left streets littered with rubble for several blocks, eyewitnesses said.

Disrupting
The attack was the deadliest since African National Congress (ANC) guerrillas launched a bombing blitz aimed at disrupting the nation-wide municipal elections.

"I thought the building was going to take off," shopowner Eric Viana said. "Our doors were blown from the hinges."

Police said the dead were a black man and a black woman who were in the car park of the OK Shopping Centre where the bomb exploded.

Witbank hospital said most of the injured had cuts and shrapnel wounds. One black woman lost her left foot and two pregnant whites were among those hurt, a spokesman reported.

Witbank is in the rightwing heartland of Transvaal province which is expected to swing to the pro-apartheid, white supremacist Conservative party in Wednesday's polls.

The elections are the first in which South Africans of all races will vote on the same day. The government hopes the polls will promote dialogue with blacks and has spent millions of dollars in advertising to encourage a big turnout.

Many South African blacks, including Anglican archbishop

Desmond Tutu, have dismissed the elections as an exercise in apartheid as each race will vote for separate municipal councils.

It was the 19th bomb attack this month and followed an apparent attempt yesterday to assassinate Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok.

A suspected guerrilla was arrested with a limpet mine about 150 metres (yards) from where Vlok was opening a police station near Cape Town.

The ANC, the main black nationalist group fighting white minority rule, has vowed to disrupt the elections and branded black candidates as collaborators with racists.

Although the ANC has said its campaign is aimed at security targets, car bombs and limpet mines have exploded around bus terminals, rugby stadiums and other civilian areas such as shopping centres in white suburbs.

Gorbachev, Kohl seek to improve ties

MOSCOW, Oct. 24, (AP): West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, seeking improvement in relations with the Soviets, met today in the Kremlin with Mikhail Gorbachev for their first formal talks since Gorbachev became Soviet leader.

Kohl, who arrived earlier on a four-day official visit, was greeted at Vnukovo airport on Moscow's southwest by Soviet Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov.

Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, Defence Minister Dmitri Yazov, and other top officials, Tass said.

The West German leader and his wife Hannelore were whisked into central Moscow by motorcade, and received by Gorbachev, the Soviet President, and his wife Raisa in St George's Hall of the Kremlin, the official Soviet news agency Tass said.

The two leaders then began

talks in another part of the Kremlin, St. Catherine's Hall, where the throne of the Russian czars once was located, Tass said. Details on the content of the discussions were not immediately available.

Kohl last met with Gorbachev in Moscow in March 1985 when he attended the funeral of Konstantin Chernenko, the man Gorbachev succeeded as Communist Party General Secretary.

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INTERNATIONAL

Guerrillas spurn Najibullah's Makkah talks offer

ISLAMABAD, Oct. 24, (Reuters): Anti-communist guerrillas today rejected Afghan President Najibullah's offer for peace talks in the Saudi Arabian holy city of Makkah.

"Najib should know well that mujahideen (guerrillas) are not ready to talk to him anywhere and under any conditions," Burhamuddin Rahbani, leader of the Pakistan-based guerrilla alliance, said in a statement.

Najibullah's offer, reported by official Kabul Radio, came in a speech on Saturday to an international conference on Islam in the Afghan capital.

The conference attracted representatives from 25 countries, including the United States and Soviet Union.

The Western-backed rebels have rejected previous offers for talks by Najibullah's Soviet-backed government since it launched a "national reconciliation" policy at the beginning of 1987.

They have vowed to fight on until the Kabul government is replaced by their own Islamic government.

Najibullah said in his speech on Saturday that Kabul was ready to discuss peace with the rebels anywhere they chose, the official Bakhtar news agency said.

"Should the government of Saudi Arabia agree (to act) as a host country, we are ready to hold talks with the opposition in holy Makkah," he said according to a text of the speech issued by Bakhtar today.

Saudi Arabia is a major financial backer of the Afghan rebels. Rahbani said Najibullah should himself go to Makkah "to repent disbelief and atheism and to return to the fold of Islam."

He added: "Going to Makkah and repenting his wrong beliefs and numerous crimes will hopefully open the door of God's mercy to him."

Najibullah told the conference: "Afghanistan has always been an Islamic country and will remain a true stronghold of Islam."

He also said Kabul wanted its membership of the 46-nation Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) reinstated. The OIC suspended Afghanistan's membership after the December 1979 Soviet military intervention.

Moscow is withdrawing more than 100,000 troops from Afghanistan since May 15 under UN-mediated accords signed last April. The pullout is due to be completed by Feb 15 next year.

Seven Palestinian guerrillas captured

RASHAYA, Lebanon, Oct. 24, (Reuters): Israeli troops and militia today captured seven Palestinian guerrillas including a woman as they tried to enter Israel, a radio station said.

The Voice of the South Radio run by Israel's South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia allies said the seven were caught at dawn in Kfarlita village in Israel's self-declared security zone.

Clash
It said the guerrillas stormed a house in the village last night and asked the owner to hide them until dawn "as they planned to infiltrate into Israel for an attack there."

"But the owner of the house managed to escape and he informed the Israeli and the SLA who surrounded the house and arrested the seven," the radio said.

It added that the seven were Palestinians who had entered the zone from the southern Lebanese port of Sidon, a main bastion for Palestinian guerrilla groups.

The SLA, backed by Israeli helicopters, killed six guerrillas of the radical Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) in a clash inside the zone yesterday.

SLA militiamen clashed three times over the weekend with guerrillas in the security zone, set up by Israel in 1985 to protect its northern settlements from guerrilla attacks.

The SLA has arrested dozens of residents in connection with a suicide-car bomb attack last Wednesday that killed eight Israeli soldiers.

Burmese regime tries to soften its image

BANGKOK, Oct. 24, (UPI): Burma's former ruling party, apparently seeking to soften its image in advance of promised national elections, has offered to permit private enterprise and guarantee basic human rights after 26 years of authoritarian rule.

But the promises of reform, announced yesterday on official Rangoon Radio, were counterbalanced by reports that government troops again fired on pro-democracy demonstrators, killing a teenager.

A second person was shot and killed by soldiers during a disturbance outside a military office building in the capital, the broadcast said.

Rangoon Radio carried excerpts of a platform approved by the National Unity Party, the new name for the Burma Socialist Programme Party that enforced a strict brand of socialism during its 26 years as the only legal party in Burma.

"Work will be carried out to ensure that the private sector has a full role to play in the process of fully developing all of the productive forces in the country," the broadcast quoted the party as saying.

Contacts with communist nations stepped up

Iran looks to East for friends

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24, (Agencies): In a push to end its isolation, Iran has stepped up diplomatic and commercial contacts with communist nations such as the Soviet Union and China, while relations with the United States remain frozen, US officials say.

Since the war between Iran and Iraq ended two months ago, the government of the Ayatollah Khomeini has expanded links with more than 20 countries on six continents in a campaign to attract foreign investments, State Department officials and Iranian specialists said last week.

State Department officials estimate that Iran will need an infusion of at least \$100 billion to rebuild its war-torn economy, care for war victims and their families and revive its depleted armed forces.

Some Iranian experts believe a flawed Reagan administration policy is keeping the United States from the fruits of an improved relationship with the strategically important Gulf

country, the world's second largest oil exporter in the 1970s.

"We are not getting near the starting gate," said James Bill, a professor at the College of William and Mary and author of a book on US-Iranian relations. "Iran is reaching out, but I see very little sign on our part of an exploration of new avenues and new approaches."

Pro-Iranian kidnappers released an Indian citizen with American resident status earlier this month after holding him hostage in Lebanon for 20 months.

Secretary of State George Shultz said US-Iran relations will not improve unless Tehran stops supporting terrorism and takes steps to secure the release of all American hostages being held in Lebanon.

Shultz has invited Iran to join in a direct dialogue but said he has received no response. "If Iran wants a direct dialogue, fine," a department official knowledgeable about

Iran said. "But we don't want to make unilateral gestures in the hope they will consent to talk to us."

Iran has expanded ties with communist governments in Hungary, the Soviet Union, China and North Korea in the past month, according to state-run media in all five countries.

The Soviet Union is helping to rebuild an Iranian steel mill and thermal power plants and has been discussing with Tehran expansion of oil and gas co-operation, Radio Moscow has reported.

North Korea and Iran signed mining, trade and fisheries agreements earlier this month, according to the state-run Iranian news agency IRNA. In addition, Hungarian Premier Karoly Grosz is due to visit Iran from Oct 25 to 27.

Criticism
Meanwhile, an Iranian cleric said yesterday, Iranian leaders should learn to listen to criticism and act on it if necessary.

"We ask government leaders and officials in charge of the

Islamic state to listen to criticisms, and listen well, and accept the good ones," IRNA quoted Ayatollah Ali Meshkini as saying.

"We believe if a society lacks honest and constructive criticism with guiding and reforming motives... that society will not reach excellence. It would be the same if the leaders of that society are not willing to accept criticism."

The agency, monitored in Cyprus, said Meshkini was a leading theological teacher at the holy city of Qom and the head of the Experts Assembly which would decide on the country's future leadership.

Meshkini in a message to medical students meeting in Qom, said no one group should consider its way of thinking as "revelation sent down from heaven" and seek to impose its views.

An Iranian minister said on Saturday that political parties were free to operate provided they did not conspire against the state.

Dalai Lama sets date for talks with China

DHARMSALA, India, Oct. 24, (Reuters): The Dalai Lama said today he had set a time and a place for the first official talks between the exiled Tibetan leadership and China on the future of Tibet.

He said details of the talks between his representatives and Chinese officials would be announced in the next day or so but he did not expect them to include discussions about his own return to Tibet.

In the past the Chinese government has always insisted that the only problem in Tibet was that of the Dalai Lama's return, the exiled spiritual leader said in an interview at his headquarters in the north Indian town of Dharm-

sala. "We're always telling the government that 100,000 refugees, including the Dalai Lama, are not important. The main problem is the rights of six million Tibetans," he said.

Tibetan exiles have repeatedly accused China of human rights abuses against the people it has ruled since 1949.

China denies the accusations. In recent months Chinese authorities have responded vigorously to crush occasional anti-Beijing protests in the Tibetan capital Lhasa.

Beijing, which regards Tibet as an autonomous region of China, last month invited the Dalai Lama to set a time and place for

the talks. The Dalai Lama, jovial and relaxed in his well-guarded Dharmasala residence, said he did not expect the upcoming talks to solve the Tibetan problem quickly.

"It will take maybe 10, 15 years. But my philosophy is to attempt whatever I can," said the 54-year-old leader who has lived in India since fleeing Tibet after an abortive uprising against the Chinese in 1959.

The talks will be the first official negotiations over the future of Tibet, although the Dalai Lama's representatives have been to China at least three times on what were described as "fact-finding" missions.

Hirohito stable

TOKYO, Oct. 24, (AP): Emperor Hirohito continued to discharge traces of blood today, but palace officials said the 87-year-old monarch's condition was otherwise stable.

For the first time in a month, court physicians yesterday administered no blood transfusions to the emperor, said Hirohito's spokesman Kenji Maeda.

41 feared dead in Philippines

Typhoon Ruby leaves a trail of destruction

MANILA, Oct. 24, (Reuters): Typhoon Ruby sent a bus plunging into a river with the possible loss of 35 lives today and thousands have been forced to flee their homes in the storm, Philippine officials said.

The military said the passengers were feared drowned when the bus carrying 48 people went off a wooden bridge at the height of the typhoon in the central province of Antique.

"We think they were carried off by the currents. We think they are dead," Colonel Pacio Briz, the military's area operations chief, said of 35 of the passengers.

The 13 other occupants, including the driver, swam to safety, Briz said by telephone.

The accident brought to 41 the number of people feared killed since Ruby hit the archipelago yesterday.

A family of five were drowned when floodwaters swept away their shanty in the southern town of Cagayan de Oro.

"They were apparently all sleeping. Suddenly their house was gone and they were gone," city administrator Bob Roa said. Another person drowned in Zamboanga del Norte province, relief officials said.

They said more than 10,000 people lost their homes yesterday when Ruby blew in at 165 kph (over 100 mph) destroying riverbank shanties in Cagayan de Oro, the hardest hit area.

In the capital, Manila, Philippine Air Lines grounded all domestic flights and the Coast Guard ordered commercial ships

to suspend all voyages.

The authorities, who expect the typhoon to hit Manila tomorrow, ordered all schools closed and sent home government employees at midday.

A Red Cross spokesman said the typhoon flooded riverbank villages outside Cagayan de Oro, forcing people to flee to chapels, schools and markets.

The storm also wrecked a major bridge linking the town of 500,000 to the rest of Mindanao region. Four other bridges were damaged by Ruby, the 17th typhoon to hit the Philippines this year.

The state-owned Philippine news agency estimated damage to crops and property at 50 million pesos (\$2.4 million).

Ruby struck three days after typhoon Pat pummeled the northern island of Luzon, wrecking the bones of 9,000 people.

A ship with more than 400 people aboard, battered by heavy seas, sent out a distress call today.

Officials said rescue vessels were rushing to the aid of the 3,000-tonne ferry Dona Marilyn.

"It sent out May Day signals saying it had run into big waves and was turning back. The signals mean it was in critical condition," Sulpicio Lines vice-president Vicente Gambito said in a telephone interview.

The Dona Marilyn, carrying at least 412 passengers and several dozen crewmen, was near central Samar island when it was last heard from at about 1:30 pm (0530 GMT).

FBI examines Zia's plane crash report

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24, (AP): The FBI is examining a report by Pakistan on the plane crash on Aug 17 that killed Pakistani President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq to determine whether to pursue an independent investigation, officials said yesterday.

"We've been forwarded the report by the Justice and State Departments and we're analyzing it now," FBI spokesman Demery Bishop said of the Pakistani investigation into the crash that also killed the US ambassador to the country and 28 others aboard.

"It's more of an inquiry now," Bishop said. "Whether we will go forward with it or the next step is uncertain at this point."

The Pakistani investigation, which was assisted by a team of US technical experts, concluded that sabotage was the most likely cause of the crash, according to parts of the report made public last week.

Briefed

Members of Congress were briefed on the report by Pentagon and State Department officials in closed-door meetings last week. Reportedly, they were told the Pakistani investigation was unable to pin down the exact cause of the crash.

Among those killed were US Ambassador Arnold Raphel and Brig. Gen. Herbert Wassom, the senior American defence official stationed in Pakistan.

The crash and the investigation into it has been a sensitive issue for US officials because of Zia's role, with encouragement from the United States, in helping supply rebel guerrillas in their fight against Soviet troops in neighbouring Afghanistan.

No winner in Shamir-Peres TV debate

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Oct. 24, (Reuters): Israeli political analysts say there was no clear winner in a debate between Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres which was unlikely to sway voters nine days before elections. "There is no doubt it (the debate) will have no dramatic effect on the electorate," said Menachem Shalev, diplomatic correspondent for the Jerusalem Post.

"There was no knockout and I think each side can claim its own leader won points," he said after the 30-minute debate was broadcast on Israel Television yesterday.

Neither Shamir, leader of the right-wing Likud Bloc, nor Peres, head of the centre-left Labour Party, surprised the Israeli public with any new Middle East peace proposals.

"Neither side said anything new. They said it all during the campaign, so I don't think it will have a great impact on the voters," said Aviezer Golan, an editorial writer for Yedioth Ahronoth, Israel's highest-selling newspaper.

Most opinion polls show Likud and Labour neck and neck ahead of the Nov 1 election. The two parties agreed to form a national unity coalition in 1984, after neither side won enough votes to form a government on its own.

Peres said he would establish another government with Likud if it would promote peace, but Shamir called on voters to give his party enough support to "establish a broad government whose participants will be loyal and will jointly co-operate for the good of the people."

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Respiratory diseases common among children in Kuwait, doctor says

By Y. John

DR D.C. SHARDA, the consultant paediatrician and unit head of the Farwaniya Hospital, has said bronchial asthma in children is quite common in Kuwait.

He said he has seen and treated a number of rare diseases among children in Kuwait during the last nine years. But, Dr Sharda said: "The most common diseases we see here are respiratory diseases mostly due to viral infection. Bronchial asthma is the maximum affected disease in Kuwait compared to other places such as the UK, USA, India and Iran."

He began specialising in child diseases some 25 years ago and has worked in hospitals in the UK, USA, India and Iran before being appointed here.

He has discovered respiratory diseases among children as well as diarrhoea, rheumatic fever, kidney and heart problems.

Congenital

"Diarrhoea is more common during the summer season and affects mostly people who travel abroad and come back," Dr Sharda said. He added that living in overcrowded areas can also lead to rheumatic fever and nephritis, an inflammation of the kidneys.

He has written many research papers on children's diseases in world medical journals. He recently completed a paper on



Dr D.C. Sharda

kidney diseases among children. "These diseases are not quite common in hot climates, and it is surprising they are seen in Kuwait," he said.

He said this could be because of duststorms, climatic conditions, air-conditioning and pollution from vehicles.

People who live in heavily populated areas with poor living conditions, especially those who belong to lower socio-economic groups, are prone to these diseases, he said.

"Farwaniya Hospital's paediatric department is one of the busiest departments in Kuwait, with about 6,000 admissions a year and about 60,000 children attending the paediatric casualty clinic which is 24-hour service," he said.

Dr Sharda said congenital heart disease is common among children here.

He has conducted research on lung cancer in children and his

findings earned him valued recognition later. He was recently elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh.

Dr Sharda said inter-marriages can be the cause of some mental disorders passed in the family. Similarly, there are certain types of blood diseases which cause anaemia and are quite common here.

Rickets

"Another common disease we see among children is rickets, (which causes bones to become soft). This is due to a lack of vitamin D and lack of exposure to sunlight. In spite of plenty of sunshine, there is very little exposure to sunlight and most children lead an indoor life," he added.

Dr Sharda told the Arab Times he has also found brucellosis to be quite common in Kuwait. This is caused by drinking raw goat's milk. Symptoms include fever and severe body pains, he said.

"Unless it is suspected it can be missed or wrongly diagnosed. If it is not diagnosed in time it can be a crippling disease," Dr Sharda said. He has written a research paper on the subject and wrote about it in a leading Western medical journal recently.

He also advised parents to boil any milk which is not pasteurized before drinking.

"We have an excellent health-care system. When the child gets sick the parents can take the child to nearest clinic and if the nature of disease requires a specialist, the case can be referred to hospital," he said.

Two sentenced for car theft

KUWAIT'S Criminal Court sentenced two persons to three and two years rigorous imprisonment respectively on charges of stealing a car belonging to an Iranian national.

The court was told that CID men arrested the owner of the car for illegally entering Kuwait after being deported.

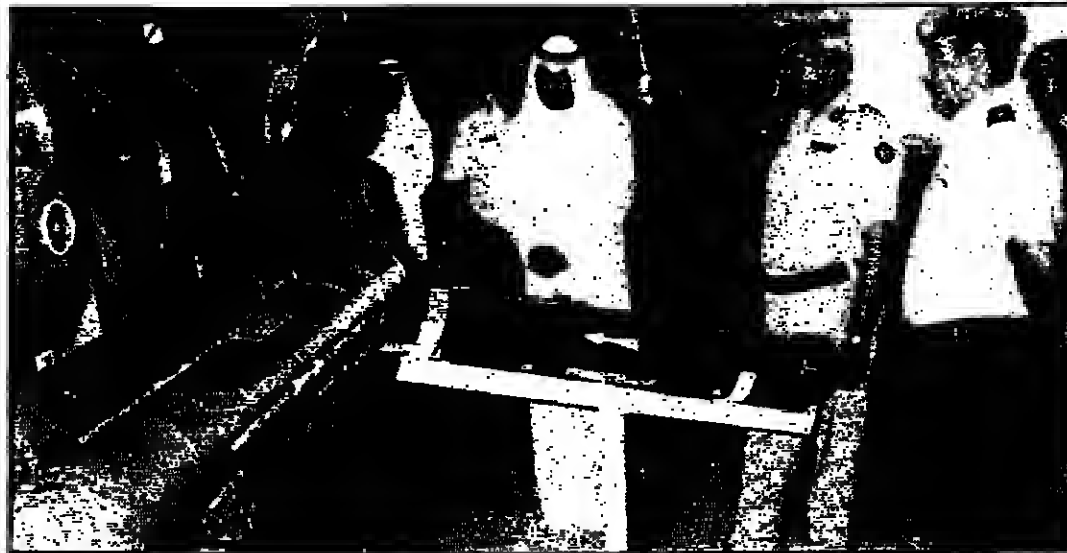
The accused went to the Jabriya Traffic Department to renew his car book, but was arrested by CID personnel. His car remained parked in front of the Jabriya Traffic Department.

The first defendant was visiting his friends, the second defendant, who was working in the department at the time of the arrest of the Iranian.

They both decided to steal the car. The first defendant brought an electrician claiming that he had lost the key to the car and wanted to change the ignition.

The second defendant was accused of breaking the window of the car to open the door.

The first defendant used the car for about one month before being arrested.



Minister of Defence Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed (centre) is shown visiting the Ahmed Al Jaber Air Base yesterday. He was accompanied by Army Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Mazayed Al Sani (second from right) and high-ranking military officers.

Amir will honour outstanding students

KUWAIT, Oct 24, (KUNA): Education Minister Anwar Abdullah Al Nouri said Saturday that HH the Amir has decided to reward outstanding students at the final secondary school examination this academic year.

Al Nouri told KUNA that the top 12 students in the science section, the first eight in the arts section, the first 10 in the course system, six from science and maths sections and four from other sections, in addition to the first three in the religious institute, will be honoured.

Four non-Kuwaitis will receive awards. The top two students from the science and the arts sections will be honoured, he said.

The minister said those top students will meet the Amir after the declaration of final exam results. He will present them with gold medals on which their names, section and the year of graduation will be printed.

The Kuwait students will be accepted at Kuwait University according to their wishes. Non-Kuwaitis, if not accepted in Kuwait University, will be sent by the Amir to study abroad on his own expense, the minister said.

He asserted that his ministry will continue to honour outstanding students. The Amir's initiative emanates from his constant encouragement to outstanding students.

New routes planned by transport company

By Jamal Amin

KUWAIT'S Public Transport Company provides transportation for 30,000 passengers from 4.00 am until 10.00 pm daily.

Abdul Wahab Al Haroun, the company's board chairman, said the company continuously studies overpopulated areas to determine transportation requirements of residents. Areas such as Hassawi, and Juleb Al Shiyokh are given priority as they are heavily populated with "labourers".

Areas such as Kbeitan are provided with more buses during peak hours. Kbeitan now has 118 buses and more will be added, he said.

Al Haroun said that studies are under way to determine transportation needs at remote areas and especially in Qurain and Sabah Al Salem. New routes will

be added in the future, he added. The new route will link Salmiya and Hawalli with Kbeitan and Juleb Al Shiyokh. It will start from the Ras Al Ardhi bus station in Salmiya and end at the bus centre in Juleb Al Shiyokh.

Discussing the company's new bus cards, Al Haroun said that they are not expensive and will save passengers money.

Seventy per cent of the subscribers use the buses three to four times daily. 25 per cent use them three times daily and 5 per cent travel once a day, he said.

The company operates 57 different routes and serves all areas of Kuwait. It owns 700 buses - 25 per cent are used to cover regular maintenance and the rest for passenger transport.

A decision has been issued to ban smoking inside buses, the official said.

6 pedestrian overpasses proposed

THE Municipal Affairs Committee has reviewed recommendations from the Technical Committee on the construction of six pedestrian overpasses along the Arabian Gulf Road.

Meeting under the chairmanship of Minister of State for Municipal Affairs Mohammed Al Rifai, the committee endorsed forming a subcommittee to investigate sanitary drainage problems caused by direct linkage of sanitary networks along the southern coastline to the sea.

The committee also discussed a decision by the Higher Committee for Physical Planning and Major Construction Projects to relocate the Ministry of Interior outside the city. It also decided to allocate the former site of Salahdeen School and its related computer centre to the Ministry.

Meanwhile, an official source at the Ministry of Public Works said that work was progressing to upgrade Ghazali Road to meet international highway standards.

The work included the construction of a 1,350-metre bridge with four ramps linking it to the underlying road which will start from the Ghazali Jamal Abdul Naser southern interchange up to the Ghazali 4th Ring Road intersection.

Maid fined

KUWAIT'S Court of Misdeemeanors sentenced a maid to one month in jail, but the court is allowing her to pay \$600 to suspend the sentence.

The court was told that the defendant was reported to the police by her employer for intentionally adding detergent to the food of her employer's baby.

The maid acted so because she was angry after her employer had prohibited her from dining with the rest of the housemaids.

Waldheim coming to Kuwait

VIENNA, Oct 24, (KUNA): Kuwaiti Ambassador to Austria Abdel Hamid Al Awadi has said that Austrian President Kurt Waldheim will arrive in Kuwait on Monday as an old friend of HH the Amir and the Kuwaiti people.

In an interview with KUNA, the Chief of the Arab Diplomatic Corps here expressed hope that the Austrian government will open embassies in all Gulf Cooperation Council countries, instead of just in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait as in the case now.

Awadi added that all GCC states except Bahrain have embassies in Vienna.

Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock said his country will open an embassy in Bahrain and Oman in the near future.

Relations between Austria and the GCC countries are improving, Awadi said. Austria has started dealing with the GCC ambassadors in Vienna as a unified regional group, he said. "It is an encouraging sign for the future of relations between the two sides," he said. The GCC group is Austria's fifth largest trade partner.

He pointed out that the 1985 opening of a Kuwait embassy in Vienna contributed to strengthening co-operation between the two countries, particularly in economic fields.

There is a possibility of expanding co-operation in information and cultural areas, he said. A GCC youth festival is planned for Vienna next year.

Waldheim's first visit to Kuwait since assuming the presidency, is viewed in Vienna as a culmination of the growing

and continuous political, economic and cultural ties between the two countries.

Political ties between the two countries have thrived since the mid-70's. Austria's first visit to Kuwait was in March 1978 by former Austrian Foreign Minister Willibald Pahr. He was followed by former Vice Chancellor and Finance Minister Hans Androsch in March 1980.

In December 1981 former Chancellor Bruno Kreisky signed an economic, scientific and technical agreement with Kuwait.

Kreisky's visit laid the cornerstone for political, economic and cultural relations between the two countries in recent years.

Austria offered great feelings of solidarity and sympathy during the first hours of the hijack tragedy of Al Jaberiyah airliner last April.

Trade Waldheim was among the first world leaders to congratulate the Amir on the release of the plane passengers. Interior Minister Karl Blecha and Foreign Minister Alois Mock condemned the terrorist act against civilian passengers and expressed full support for Kuwait during the ordeal.

In the economic sphere, Austrian exports to Kuwait, mainly in transport means, manufactured goods, chemical products and foodstuffs, reached a peak in 1985, was valued at US \$72 million.

However, this year Austrian trade to Kuwait fell by 40 per cent to about US \$40 million and further slumped during the first half of this year to reach US \$20 million, or a drop of 11.1 per cent

compared to the same period last year.

Awadi views the Waldheim visit as a chance to clarify the Austrian position on a number of vital Arab political questions.

The envoy said that lately Austria's stance has become somewhat vague on such issues as the Palestinian question.

Kuwaiti Interior Minister Sheikh Salem is scheduled to visit Austria in November.

BAHRAIN DIGEST

Indian expatriates registered

INDIAN expatriates in Bahrain now number roughly 80,000, according to the Indian Embassy here.

The figure is based on the number of Indian nationals who have so far registered at the embassy. Early this year, the embassy launched a campaign to register the Indians on the island to provide better and more efficient consular services to them and to look after their welfare while in Bahrain.

A. Karuppalayal, first secretary of the embassy, said: "80,000 is just a rough estimate. It is not possible to keep track of the exact number of Indians, as on any particular day 100 people may leave and 150 may arrive in Bahrain. We are happy, though, that most of the Indians here have registered with us."

The embassy has been expanded to provide better services and eliminate the long queues and overcrowding of the post.

Steel company to expand

BRC Weldmesh (Gulf), a Bahraini steel company which supplies the construction industry is launching a BD 150,000 expansion programme over the next two years.

The company, which has recently undergone a BD500,000 expansion, celebrates its 15th anniversary this week. The firm belongs to the BRC (British Reinforced Concrete) group of companies in Britain. It is equipped with the latest machinery in steel and construction technology.

According to Enad Almoayed, managing director, the company will undergo a further BD150,000 expansion to maintain the high quality of its products.

"We hope to achieve 90 per cent Bahrainisation within three years with the co-operation of various vocational training institutes," said Almoayed.

The company's main product is steel reinforcement for the construction industry. Almoayed said that with the introduction of new machinery, the company's products had proved increasingly popular with engineers as well as local and foreign consultants.

"As part of its diversification plan, the company also produces cut-and-bend steel bars, which save a considerable amount of time of contractors and are ideal for Bahrain where construction site space is restricted," he said.

"Other products include weldmesh used in non-concrete work, high-security fencing and also for agricultural and industrial applications."

He said that another new area recently explored by the company is the production of shop fittings and shelving units.

He said that 20 per cent of the company's products are exported. The firm started in October 1973 with six employees. Today it has 52 employees, half of whom are Bahrainis.

On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the company, a reception will be held on Wednesday night at the Diplomat Hotel.

Lebanese newspaper praises Kuwait

BEIRUT, Oct 24, (KUNA): The Lebanese daily Al Bairaq today commended Kuwait in the highest terms for its vital role in regional and international affairs.

In a front-page editorial, Al Bairaq said today: Kuwait deserves appreciation and congratulations for the achievements it has realised through hard work and persistence.

The paper described Kuwait as a tiny state which, by the will and wisdom of its leaders, knew how to lay down the foundation of a modern, sovereign, strong and independent state.

It added that the Kuwait leaders have ruled their country in the best way and established a strong and stable system of government.

It said no one can deny the effective role Kuwait plays in settling Arab differences. The daily said that this role was obvious in the efforts Kuwait exerted toward bringing an end to the Gulf war.

"Kuwait has proved that it masters the international game," the newspaper said.

"For all those reasons and achievements, Kuwait has

proved that it is a state that deserves to live," the paper concluded.

Meanwhile, Kuwait's interest in diversifying its sources of weapons was published in a front-page report of the same daily.

Under the headline: "aimed at preserving its external and internal security," the daily said Kuwait is continuing its international contacts to maintain firm military and political relations.

It went on to say that Kuwait still adheres to a policy of diversifying its sources of sophisticated weapons, with which it supplies its armed forces.

According to the military-political plan set up by Kuwaiti officials, spearheaded by HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, Kuwait's search continues for East and West bloc countries with the best weapons.

Following the big fanfare over the US-Kuwaiti multi-billion dollar F-18 deal, the Kuwaiti government sought similar agreements with other big powers, to prove its complete freedom to choose its sources of arms.

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★ Poonam Dhillon ★
★ Rajeev Kapoor ★
★ Suresh Wadkar ★



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Prequalification of Consultants

— for —
Consultancy Services
— for —

The Study and Design of New Central Workshops at Ahmadi

Kuwait Oil Company (KSC) invites suitably qualified and experienced Kuwaiti Engineering Offices/International Engineering Offices, who are capable of providing the above service and who wish to be considered for inclusion in the List of Tenderers for such work, to obtain the requisite application forms from:-

Kuwait Oil Company (K.S.C.)
Contracts Department
Main Office, Room No. 138
Ahmadi

SCOPE OF SERVICE REQUIRED

The objective is to study the existing facilities and Company's requirements and produce a design for the New Central Workshops at Ahmadi, with associated facilities, to replace the existing Central Workshops.

The Consultants prequalified in accordance with this document shall be invited to bid for the study and design of the New Central Workshops building and facilities to replace the existing Workshop buildings and facilities at Ahmadi in accordance with the Company's requirements.

The study will identify all existing equipment to be relocated to the new buildings, facilities and additional equipment to be procured, together with all associated service requirements.

The Consultancy Services will also include detailed cost estimates for all aspects of the project, together with demolition of existing Workshop building and services, procurement of equipment and provision of all services from commencement to the commissioning including project management and site supervision.

Applications can be obtained during office hours from Monday 24th October, 1988 and must be submitted by not later than 1500 hrs. on Sunday 4th December, 1988. Applications received after this date may not be considered.

Kathak, Odissi dance recital in Kuwait

NOTED Indian dancers are to take part in a two-day dance recital organised by the Indian cultural committee in Kuwait.

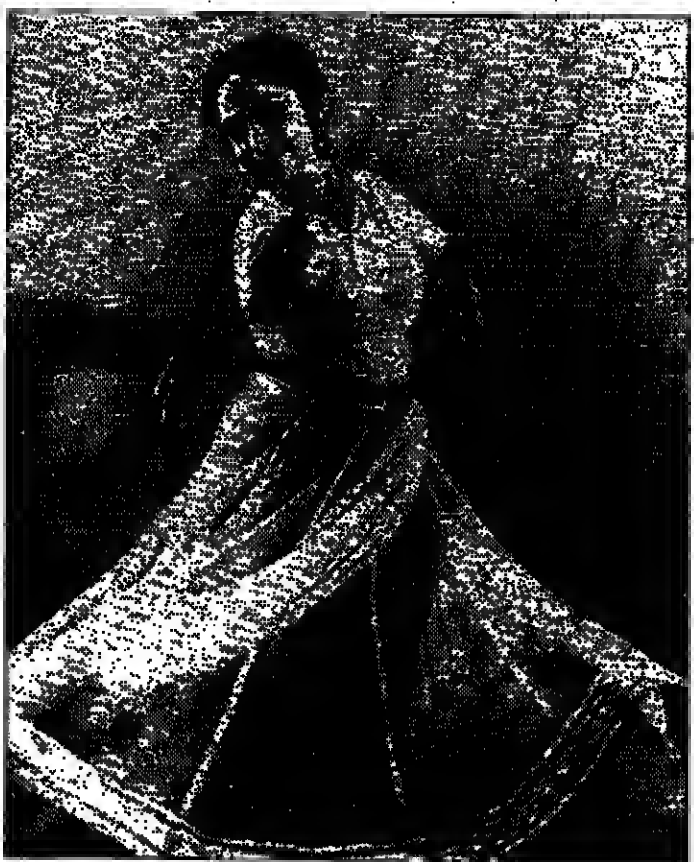
Katbak dancer Kumkum Dhar arrives in Kuwait today for the shows on Thursday and Friday. She will be accompanied by Odissi dancer Ratna Roy and sarod player Dhyansh Khan.

Kumkum, who has given several solo performances in the US, UK and Canada, is considered to be one of the foremost exponents of Kathak, a north Indian dance form blending Hindu and Muslim cultures.

Kumkum, who belongs to the Lucknow school, was the title of "Singer Mani" by the Sur Singar Samsad, an art group, in Bombay.

Story

The world Kathak comes from "katha" — story telling. "The Kathaks" were originally story-tellers and rhapsodists attached to temples in certain parts of north India. During the Mughal period Kathak became a court dance, evolving in the Hindu royal courts in Rajasthan and appreciated by royalty in Delhi, Agra and Lucknow. Under the patronage of kings it became highly stylised. Two forms evolved — the Jaipur school and the Luck-



Kumkum Dhar: noted Kathak performer

now school.

The Jaipur school emphasised pure dance and rhythmic

wizardry and the Lucknow school preferred a more graceful, decorative, expressive

and sensuous style.

The dancers conceive space in straight lines, with only a front back movement. The human form is seen as a straight line with a few deviation from the vertical median. Footwork, fast pirouettes and mime are considered to be the dominant features of the style. Ghungroo — tiny bells — are tied around the dancers' ankles to enhance the complicated footwork. The style has a quietude and harmony of movement and a whirl of action on the other.

Kumkum Dhar has been critically acclaimed for "dramatic verve, control, subtlety and power." It is said that the dancer's performance have "engaging naturalness coupled with infectious joy."

Variations

During her two-day recital in Kuwait, Kumkum is expected to perform variations of such dances as Kavya Stuti, a poetic composition based on the work of Indian poet Tulsidas; dhruwad, based on a composition that emphasises footwork; urita, pure dance; thumri, an expressive dance on the theme of love; kalamardana, based on mythology; holi, displaying the exuberance of a festival; rang-e-mehfil, reflecting Mughal influence; Amir Khuro, amalgamating two

cultures — Persian and Indian; and Daksha Yagya, a composition based on the mythology.

Odissi will be performed for the first time in Kuwait by Ratna Roy. This dance form originated in Orissa in eastern India and also evolved in the temples. One of the most lyrical dance styles, it reflects traditional concepts in iconography. Lost for 300 years due to political turmoil, it was revived in the early fifties by a handful of dancers. The dance combines elements of pure dance — body movement and mime.

Sarod

Dhyansh Singh will give a sarod recital. Sarod, a prototype of the lute, is a single piece instrument made of very light teak wood. The instrument has 19 strings — four carry the melody, four provide the drone and others are used to make rhythmic distinctions.

Dhyansh, who is a noted sarod player, is the grandson of the legendary Ustad Alauddin Khan.

The dance performances will be held at the Indian Arts Circle, Finaitees, at 7.30 pm on Thursday and at 6.30 pm on Friday. For reservations please see What's On.

FA

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum

DAILY: 5 pm onwards. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Friday: 9 am onwards.

Islamic Arts Museum

SAT-THURS: 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4.30 to 7.30 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quaraic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marionette equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

Tareq Rajab Museum

SAT-THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; FRIDAYS: 9 am to noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world. Sadu House.

Sadu House

SAT-THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

THEATRE

Kathak Recital

OCT 27/28: IAC, Finaitees. Indian dancer Kumkum Dhar. Odissi dancer Ratna Roy and sarod recital by Dhyansh Khan. For entry passes call 2523521; 2644863; 3904817.

Bengali Play

OCT 27/28: 6.30 pm. Mousetrap Theatre. The Mouchal Group, a Bangladeshi group presents "Balevapur Rupkatha, a fairy tale. For details phone A. Karim — 2627643; Dr Hayder — 5625456.

SOCIAL

Colva Nite

OCT 27: 8.30 pm. Messilah Beach Hotel. Colva Nite with music by the Top Ranks. For details phone 2434776; 2413884; 4310913; 5629141 (after 5 pm).

Halloween Party

OCT 31: Children's Halloween pool party at Messilah Beach. Fancy dress competition, pantomime fun and pool fun games. For reservations call the hotel ext. 739/751.

Diwali Celebration

Nov 10: The Indian Arts Circle will celebrate Diwali. Open to members and their guests. Passes available from the IAC. Finaitees. Tel: 3904817.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus

Laka Hada al Hub (Arabic) Starring: Noor Shariff, Laila Alwi

Al Salamiya

Wet God Starring: Brooke Shields

Al Hamra

Mao Hunt

Drive-In

Ighial Madrasah (Arabic) Starring: Nabila Obaid, Sabireen, Hisham Salim, Salah Qabil

Al Firdous

Dayavan (Hindi) Starring: Vinod Khanna, Feroz Khan, Madhuri Dixit

Fahabehel Open-Air

Kanwarial (Hindi) Starring: Jeetendra, Sujatha Mehta

Al Jleeb

Hijack

Al Fahabehel

Le Gendarme De Saint Tropez (French)

Al Jahra

Hoshiyar (Hindi)

Granada

Steel Dawn

Salaikhhat

The Link Hits the Trail

Ahmedi Drive-In

Al Fatimat Al Maqalat (Arabic)

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.37 am
Zuhr	11.32
Asr	2.43
Maghreb	5.07
Isha	6.25

At the SAS

AL BUSTAN: "October Fest," until Oct 28, featuring German cuisine. Buffet, includes ouzel suppe mit buhn, veal kasseler and other dishes. Al Bustan offers Friday brunch for families, 11.30 am to 3 pm. Duo Paradise from Poland provide music.

Sahar Al Khaimah: Oriental night, held every Tuesday in the Tent, highlights are Arab souk, Oriental cuisine and Oriental music.

Peacock Room: Chinese meals prepared by chef Voo Kwee Kioog. The menu features fried wonton, sauteed diced chicken with cashew out and steak Chinese style.

Al Boom: "New Taste of the Week," prepared by chef Peter D. Zohrist. Appetisers, charcoal grilled steak and seafood, plus daily special.

At the Meridian

LA-BRASSERIE: Thursday's jam session, foot tapping, jazz music by Remy D'Mello; family fun on Fridays; oriental buffet with music and video cartoons.

Versailles: Lunch and dinner — grilled seafood; meat or fish fondue; grilled salmon.

Al Waha: Noodles promotion; chocolate cakes, pastries and truffles; until Sept 30.

Fingan Tea Lounge: Banana promotion; plus tea, coffee, refreshments and juices served in oriental atmosphere of tea lounge.

At the Sheraton

RICCARDO'S: Italian cuisine; music by the Sienna's Duo. Lunch and dinner, daily. Closed on Fridays.

Al Hamra: Suodays: Lebanese cuisine; Wednesdays: seafood night; Friday's buffet brunch. Entertainment by the Marcus Baod provide live entertainment.

Hunt Room: Lunch and dinner rest., specialises in meat and fish dishes.

Le Tarbouche: Daily lunch and dinner buffet featuring Arab cuisine. Thursdays: Arab world specialities; Fridays: buffet lunch and dinner.

Coffee Shop: International cuisine and daily specials; ideal for casual or business meeting.

At the Holiday Inn

SHAHRAZAD BBQ featured every Wednesday at the poolside at 8 pm. On Wednesdays Al Dana features "sea drama on ice," on Thursdays, an Indian night offering exotic eastern cuisine is held.

Thursdays: Dine and dance to music by Arab singers at Al Andalus Night Club. Friday:

fun 'o' surprises for children and parrots at the weekly brunch, 11 am to 3 pm.

At the Ramada

LE MIRAGE NIGHT CLUB: Thursday night BBQ, full buffet; music by Al Arzz Band.

Al Beodar Coffee Shop: Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner; 6 am to midnight; a la carte available.

Al Gandoul Grill Garden: 7 pm to midnight, features a selection of grilled specialties.

Open Garden: 7 pm to midnight, a selection of teas, coffees, and juices; Argilla water pipe available; videos shown on large screen every day.

Fish and Chips Shop: 4 pm to 11 pm.

Take away counter: 4 pm to 11 pm. Arabic sandwiches and snacks.

SPORTS

Inter-commercial bowling league

OCT 27: 300 Club; 6.30 pm; Men's Division. PPA vs Kay & Asso. Inc.; Phil Supreme vs Magnolia; Hatid Ligaya vs Al Naqub & Khattar.

OCT 28: 1 pm. Finals: Step-ladder.

Womeo's Division: 9 am. Magnolia vs God's; Far East Rest. vs Boodal.

NOV 4: 9 am. Finals. Magnolia vs Far East Rest.; Boodal vs God's.

Nomads Garden Fete

OCT 28: 12 noon to 4 pm. Kuwait Nomads R.F.C. Garden Fete at Messilah Beach Hotel. Raffle for a BA ticket to London or Madras. Lots of stalls, games and prizes. Fun for all the family. Admission: 500 fils. For details phone H. McAree (work) 4710576; G. Bennett — 5382663.

PBAK Awards

NOV 4: 4 pm. Ambassador Alunan C. Glang will present awards to the winners of the first PBAK inter-commercial bowling league. Buffet dinner. Admission: K.D. 5 per person. For reservations phone Sara Macarimbang 4843447; Ojje Olor — 5634200; Cora Paras — 4897536.

Laser Club

NOV 4: Start of the Messilah Beach Laser Club's winter racing season. Laser owners and others interested are welcome. Instruction available. For details contact D. Clark — 2425947; P. Shepherd — 5314957; 4841513; P. Berry — 3924174.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait

Al Alamiya Pharmacy Jaodol Bldg., Fahd Al Salem St.

Mojil Pharmacy Mubarak St.

Hawalli and Nagra Al Shamsan Pharmacy Ibn Khalid St.

Salmiya and Rumathiya Qortuba Pharmacy

Salem Al Mubarak St. Fahabehel and Ahmedi

Al Iman Pharmacy Makkah St.

Farwaniya Munawar Pharmacy South Souk St.

Jahra Al Noor Pharmacy

Abdul Aziz Nasrullah Bldg., Matafi St.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

MORNING

9.00 Holy Quran
9.10 Good Morning
9.15 Dahdoob Al Musiqar: Cartoon serial
9.45 World News via Satellite
10.00 Abu Al Fuloo: local serial.
10.45 Good Morning part 2; serial, starring Abber Essa, Mohammad Qabani, Shafiqah Tall, Tayseer Attiya.
12.00 News Summary
12.15 With the Singer: Today's singer is Majeda Roumi.
1.00 News Summary
1.05 Holy Quran/Closedown

EVENING

4.00 Holy Quran
4.15 World News via Satellite
5.15 Tum Tek and Children
5.45 Summer '88
6.00 La Ilaha Illallah: his-

torical serial. Starring: Laila Fawzi, Tayseer Fahmi, Rushwan Taufiq, Huda Sultan.

7.00 News Summary
7.30 Public Service: You and Your Health, hosted by Dr Rashed Al Owaish
8.15 Songs and Music
8.30 Good Evening
9.00 News in Arabic
9.55 Anfuwan Al Ashiya: Arabic serial, starring Jafar Saadi, Qassim Mohammad, Salmiya Qadir, Laila Mohammad, Sana Abdul Rahman.
10.45 Qadaya Masriya: Focus on Theatre. Prepared by Ahmad Abdu Mustafa and presented by Huda Al Mohitda.
11.30 News Summary
11.35 World News via Satellite
12.05 Holy Quran/Closedown.

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Dinosaurs: cartoon

serial

6.30 Professor Poosaugle: children's serial
7.00 Discoveries Underwater: "Oldest Shipwreck". A diving team discovers a sunken treasure in the Mediterranean Sea.
8.00 News to English
8.40 Five Mile Creek: "A Few Surprises".
9.30 Easy Street: Starring: Loni Anderson.
10.00 Secrets and Mysteries: focus on the ability of Ninja Warriors.
10.30 Edge of Darkness: police thriller. Detective Brian is attacked during investigations into the links between Northmore and a IRA faction.
11.30 News Summary
11.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

0600 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Radio Newseel
30 New Music
0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
30 Short Story
45 4th and 11th Language Extra: 18th and 25th Turning Point
0200 World News
09 British Press Review
15 Network UK
30 Sports International
0300 World News
09 News about Britain
15 The World Today
30 John Peel
0400 Newsdesk
30 The Spinners and Friends
45 Reflections (ex 25th New Ideas)
50 Financial News (ex 25th New Ideas cont'd)
55 (25th only) Book Choice
0500 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News

Summary
30 New Ideas (ex 25th Financial News)
40 Book Choice (ex 25th Reflections)
45 The World Today
0600 Newsdesk
30 Celluloid Rock
0700 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 4th and 11th Language Extra: 18th and 25th Turning Point.
45 Network UK
0800 World News
15 Reflections
15 Tech Talk
30 New Music
0900 World News
09 British Press Review
15 The World Today
30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
45 English Songbirds
1000 News Summary followed by Discovery
30 Sports International
1100 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Waveguide
25 Book Choice
30 Citizens

1200 Radio Newseel
15 Multitrack 1: Top 30
45 Sports Roundup
1300 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Network UK
45 Recording of the Week
1400 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News
45 The Spinners and Friends
1500 Radio Newseel
15 A Jolly Good Show
1600 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Omnibus
45 The World Today

Urdu

1900 Opening
1910 Behlaren Qual
1916 Programme Preview
1920 Songs
1935 Press Report
1940 Radio Club
2000 News
2020 Songs
2040 Jahan Numa
2100 Closedown

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

It is no use to blame the looking-glass if your face is awry — Nikolai Gogol, Russian author (1809-1852).

OPINION

Hold summit, save Lebanon

THE Baghdad meeting between the leaders of Egypt, Iraq and the PLO called for an emergency Arab summit to rescue Lebanon, which has been torn apart by civil war and destroyed by Arab intervention in its internal affairs.

The Lebanese people who have been fighting each other are divided into over 20 sects and more than 40 political ideologies. Some are motivated by political convictions, others by bribery and still others by directives from other countries.

Poverty and starvation may lead to co-operation with the devil. The people of Lebanon co-operated with the devil, motivated by their need and for their self-defence.

For the past 14 years, the Arab people of Lebanon have been paying the price of the disputes among Arab regimes. They have been killing themselves in support of an Arab regime against others.

The disputes among big powers is reflected in the price the Lebanese people pay. When the Soviet Union is angry at the US, a part of the Lebanese people will be hit, and when the US becomes angry with the Soviet Union, the pro-Soviets in Lebanon are hit. Even when the Israelis become angry at the Palestinians they strike against Lebanon.

This is the tragic situation of Lebanon, the country that houses 20 sects and a multitude of political trends. Even during parties, people are killed in Lebanon.

Thus, the call of the three Arab leaders for an Arab emergency summit to rescue Lebanon must be accepted very soon.

The three leaders know the meaning of war and are well aware how much damage it brings. The three leaders experienced war for a long time and realise its pains and miseries.

Any hesitation or rejection of such a meeting is indeed not in line with the Arab national spirit. The Arab people do not want to see the small country partitioned into many tiny entities who will fight each other on behalf of other countries.

The Arab summit, if held, should put an end to the intervention in the internal affairs of Lebanon. The Lebanese people do not need delegations from outside to decide who will be the next president.

For years, Lebanon has been living in accordance with a certain social structure. This structure did not affect its unity until Arabs began interfering in Lebanon's internal affairs. Such intervention destroyed the traditional agreements that upheld the structure.

The entire Arab world, and Lebanon in particular, needs an emergency Arab summit. This summit should stop the intervention by outside forces and countries in the internal affairs of Lebanon to avoid leading Lebanon to catastrophe.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

US-Philippine base accord signals problems

By Charles Aldinger

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): A doubling of US payments to the Philippines in return for maintaining military bases there highlights a big problem for Washington's strategic planners.

The US pocketbook is shrinking while many allies are becoming more independent and raising their bills for allowing American troops and weapons on their soil.

"It's not a matter of who's right and who's wrong. The facts are that other nations, especially in Western Europe, are facing the politics of finance at home. And America no longer has enough dollars to help," said Simon Serfaty of the private Johns Hopkins Foreign Policy Institute.

"The Philippines got a lot more because those bases are special. But there will be times where tough choices might get bases thrown out."

He and other experts in and out of government said they were now watching tough negotiations between Athens and Washington over two dozen US bases in Greece.

Abandon
The government of Socialist Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu has demanded that America abandon the key Hellenikon airbase near Athens. The base handles US reconnaissance in the Mediterranean and observes Soviet naval operations in the Black Sea.

Greece got \$344 million in US military aid in the last fiscal year but Congress, apparently also with an eye on the talks, has not set a 1989 figure.

But the legislature has already stipulated that Greece will get only 70 per cent of the yet-unspecified military aid total which will go to Turkey, which borders the Soviet Union. The ratio rattle-rattles Athens.

Defence Department spokesman Dan Howard told Reuters Washington was pleased with the agreement to pay the Philippines

\$962 million in outright military, food and other aid over the next two years for use of Subic Bay Naval Base and Clark Air Base through 1991 when the current agreement runs out.

"At the same time, we have to take into account our own budgetary problems," he said. "This should not be taken by others that we have endless sums to spend."

In addition to the \$962 million, which is more than double the \$360 million Manila would have received under the current aid programme, Washington is pushing \$500 million in indirect assistance through the US Export-Import Bank and the Overseas Private Investment Council.

None of that guarantees that future negotiations will be successful on extending the agreement for Subic, Clark and four smaller bases beyond 1991.

"Was it all worth it?" asked one Pentagon analyst rhetorically. "I don't know. It would cost us a lot to move those bases, but we just don't have the money to keep doing this."

The Pentagon and State Department have complained loudly about a congressional move in recent years to earmark economic and military aid, providing fat minimums for Israel, Egypt and a few other countries while giving government bureaucrats less control over the shrinking aid pie.

Aid

"A small example — we should be putting about \$200 million a year into grant military aid for sub-Saharan Africa," said one Pentagon official. "But that has shrunk from \$100 million in 1986, to \$30 million in 1987 to \$25 million last year."

"Sudan," he said, "went from \$100 million in 1982 to zero last year."

Spain, analysts noted, appeared to buck the high-price bases trend this year when it did not ask for any US military and economic aid.

Jordan and Egypt willing to negotiate peace with Labour Party leader

By Paul Taylor

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, (Reuters): The world seems to be backing Shimon Peres and his Labour Party in Israel's Nov 1 general election, but analysts say it may not help him win.

The United States and the Soviet Union have signalled their preference for Israel's conciliatory foreign minister over Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and his right-wing Likud Party.

The leaders of Jordan and Egypt have openly endorsed Peres and indicated their willingness to negotiate peace with him. Even the PLO appears to be trying to help the Labour leader.

Divided

A top Egyptian official said Saturday's surprise Egyptian-Jordanian-Palestinian summit meeting in Aqaba was designed to show Israeli voters that there is an Arab partner for peace.

But nine days before the poll, Israeli commentators say increasing foreign intervention,

World backs Peres in Israeli poll

some of it solicited by Peres' aides, may be doing Labour more harm than good.

"Even people in the Labour Party were divided in their assessment of its actual effect on the voter, as some feared it might prove to be counter-productive," the English-language Jerusalem Post said in an editorial.

Opinion polls show Labour running neck-and-neck with the Likud, with neither party likely to win a clear majority. Shamir has reacted angrily to what his aides call a foreign conspiracy to prevent Likud from winning the election.

In an ABC television interview last week, King Hussein of Jordan described Peres' proposals for an international peace conference as "very encouraging" and warned that a Shamir victory could bring "absolute disaster" on the Middle East.

Shamir called the comments "damaging and harmful" and, in a line which may be popular with many voters, accused Peres of lacking national pride in soliciting Arab meddling.

The tabloid daily Hadashot, which usually backs Labour, criticised Peres for helping arrange the Hussein interview.

"Gimmicks like his joint appearance with Hussein will not bring him any closer to his goals, and might move him away from them," it said. "Even Israelis who are critical of Shamir's policies are not thrilled that such criticism was ordered from Hussein by other Israelis."

Both Shamir and Peres have tried to use the international stage to bolster their fortunes at the polls.

Shamir made the first visit by an Israeli leader to Hungary in

September but has generally concentrated on the home front in keeping with Likud's hardline nationalistic ideology.

President Reagan invited Peres to join peace talks in New York with Egypt's foreign minister on Sept 26. A White House statement praised Peres' flexibility and pointedly omitted Shamir.

Blocked
The prime minister blocked US Secretary of State George Shultz's Middle East peace initiative earlier this year by opposing an international conference and rejecting any exchange of occupied Arab land for peace.

Peres favours giving up most of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, captured by Israel in 1967 and now populated by 1.75 million Palestinians, in exchange for peace and security guaran-

tees. The Soviet Union, gradually thawing ties with Israel frozen since the 1967 Middle East war, said it was willing to resume full diplomatic relations at the start of a peace conference.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and French President Francois Mitterand both received Peres warmly recently and endorsed his vision of a Middle East peace conference.

But the most spectacular foreign intervention has come from Jordan, Egypt and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Three days after King Hussein declared he was still willing to form a Jordanian-Palestinian peace delegation, as sought by Peres, PLO chairman Yasser Arafat and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak flew to Jordan

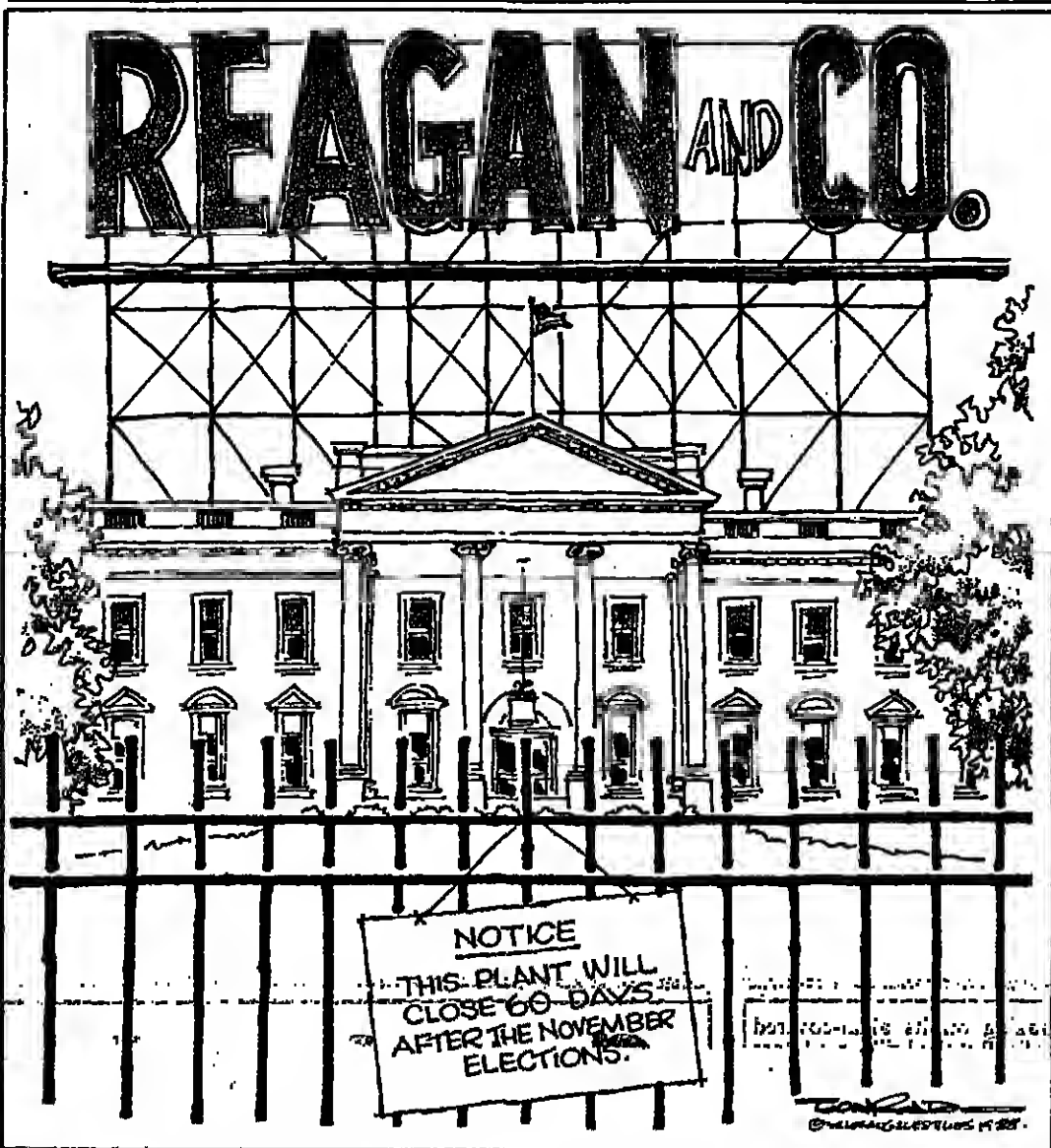
for talks on a joint peace strategy. Spelling out the meaning, Mubarak's aide Osama Al Baz said in Aqaba: "We want the Israeli voter, whether Arab or Jew, to understand where his specific interest lies. Let him know when he casts his vote that there is an Arab partner ready for negotiations."

Arafat earlier agreed to delay the planned declaration of an independent Palestinian state by the PLO's parliament-in-exile until after the Israeli election.

Diplomats said both Egypt and the Soviet Union had warned him the move might help Shamir at the polls.

Palestinian sources said Arafat's dominant Fatah Movement had sent secret instructions to its supporters in the occupied territories not to escalate a 10-month-old uprising against Israeli rule during the election campaign.

The last 10 days have been among the quietest in recent months.



Indonesia's biggest political party chief plans to resign

By Sid Astbury

JAKARTA, (UPI): Indonesia's vice-president is climbing down from the banyan tree this week, which is to say that Gen. Sudharmono is resigning as chairman of the country's highest political party.

Every five years Indonesians vote for a hulk, a star, or a tree. Most of them pick the banyan tree, symbol of hallo! identification of Golkar, the government political party.

Last year, when 93 million voted, enough of them ticked the tree to give Golkar a whopping 73 per cent of the popular vote and an awesome majority in parliament — 299 seats to 101 for the hulk and the star combined.

Sudharmono, 61, led Golkar to victory at the 1987 general election and was rewarded with the vice-presidency in March. He's standing down at this week's party congress because he says it is too demanding to be a political party boss as well

President Suharto's deputy. The 1,500 party delegates crowding the convention hall are in for an easy job electing his successor.

"He's going to be old: Javanese and a general," said an American academic who has followed Jakarta politics for more than a decade.

Suharto, chairman of Golkar's Board of Patrons, leaves little to chance, especially elections. Golkar, the political wing of his military-based administration, always has been led by his appointees.

And over its 24-year history, Golkar has never recorded anything but a landslide at the polls.

"The way things are within Golkar, because of the lack of democracy, anybody falling from the sky can become its chairman," said Gen. Widodo, a former Army chief of staff. He doesn't see anything amiss in one general handing over to another.

"It's obvious that the military are going to play a role in Golkar

because the military created Golkar," Widodo said.

The general everybody tries to lead Golkar for the next five years is Gen. Wahanono, a comrade in arms of old soldier Suharto.

Aide

"I'm ready and willing if the congress picks me as chairman," said Wahanono, formerly the governor of East Java province and now a senior aide to Suharto.

Endorsements flow in thick and fast. Parliament speaker Gen. Kharis Suhud has said Wahanono, from the dominant Javanese ethnic group, is the best man for the job. So has Gen. Rudini, the minister for home affairs.

Although his election may be plain sailing, the job itself is daunting. Pressure is building for greater democracy both within the government party and with-

out. "Golkar has to adjust to the modern world," said Suhardiman, one of Golkar's founders. "It has to stand on its own two feet like the other two parties."

"So far Golkar has rested on two pillars — the bureaucracy and the military," said Mardinsyah, secretary-general of the party whose symbol is the star.

"Let's see it stand alone and compete on equal terms with the other two parties."

Forbidden

Mardinsyah noted that all the governors are Golkar men and that the other parties are forbidden from setting up branch offices in the villages. Golkar has branch offices in all of Indonesia's 62,000 villages.

"If Wahanono gets the job, Suharto will be seen as resisting the drive for regeneration within the party and within government," said the American analyst. "It will also be seen as a blow for the young Turks in Golkar, who had thought their time had come."

Wahanono himself is conscious of the call for rejuvenation. "I'm old, I'm 63," he said. "But I feel like a 35-year-old."

He will have to appeal to 35-year-olds if he is to repeat Sudharmono's success and deliver 73 per cent of the vote in the next general election.

By Bernd Debusmann

SANTIAGO, (Reuters): Chile's Communist Party, the biggest in South America, appears to be following other Latin American communists into the political cold.

Over the past decade communists have fared poorly in the continent. As one country after another switched from military rule to democracy, communist parties have been thrashed at the polls and relegated to the fringes of political life.

But the pro-Soviet Chilean Communist Party, target of campaigns of suppression, was considered exceptionally strong.

It had solid roots in the working class and a dominant position within organised labour. It appealed to artists and intellectuals. It pulled in 16.2 per cent of the vote in Chile's last free general elections in 1973.

Disaffected militants now say the party has been in decline in recent years, unable to adapt to change. There are no reliable membership figures but officials admit it is a long way from the 1973 peak of 200,000.

Supporters
According to diplomats and political analysts, the party again lost political ground, and supporters, in the run-up to the Oct 5 plebiscite in which Chileans rejected General Augusto Pinochet's bid for an eight-year extension of his rule.

"The communists played their cards badly," said a Western ambassador. "They... alienated everybody who was interested in a victory over Pinochet."

Initially, the party instructed the faithful to boycott the Yes-No vote. But it reversed its stand when it became obvious that Chileans were determined to seize their first chance to vote on Pinochet since he seized power in a bloody 1973 coup.

Crush
After the change of tack on the boycott, party ideologue Volodia Teitelboim came home from the cold — 15 years of exile in Moscow — and demanded the formation of a provisional government and mass demonstrations on election night to sweep Pinochet from office there and then.

In a country where Pinochet's Army and police have shown time and again that they are capable of crushing dissent,

the Front failed in an 1986 bid to kill Pinochet and has been blamed for bomb blasts, attacks on military targets, and kidnappings.

While the communists deny any formal link with the FPMR, the party has refused to renounce violence and sticks to a 1980 policy statement which supported "all forms of struggle... overtly or covertly, peacefully or violently, in answer to government repression."

By Ayse Sarioglu
ANKARA, (Reuters): A power struggle between Turkey's religious right and Western-educated liberals in Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's ruling party has been thrust into the open by criticism of the state-run television.

Some politicians want Turkey, which is predominantly Muslim but secular, to return to Islamic values, but others seek greater expression of Western culture.

Ozal defeated a censure motion against Turkish Radio and Television (TRT) in parliament last week in spite of a split within his own Motherland Party.

The motion, tabled by the centre-right True Path Party (TTP), attacked Cem Duna, an Ozal aide who was appointed TRT director-general in April, and State Minister Adnan Kahveci, another former Ozal aide with liberal views whose portfolio includes TRT. It blamed them for TRT's alleged present ills, saying that the programming line they adopted eroded Turkey's moral values.

Duna was also accused of allowing left-wingers to sneak into senior TRT posts.

Compatibility
He told Reuters in an interview: "Compatibility between Turkey's Muslim image and a Western outlook is no problem."

"Islam in Turkey is interpreted in a very tolerant way... as just the relationship between man and his God. From the Turkish point of view I see little difficulty," he said after the defeat

Chile's communists out in the cold

Teitelboim's statement sounded like dangerous folly even to many militants who see the general as a blood-thirsty tyrant.

Moderate opposition leaders say that without Teitelboim's statement, Pinochet would have lost by an even larger margin than the 54.6 per cent to 43 per cent result.

Now, the communists are being frozen out as 16 ideologically diverse opposition parties which joined in the anti-Pinochet "Command for the No" push for negotiations on changes in the constitution to break the power of the military.

The controversial 1980 charter provides for military dominance even after free elections due in December 1989. It explicitly excludes the communists from the political process.

Allies
Party leaders, pointing out that their followers contributed to Pinochet's defeat, say they are prepared to enter alliances in the transition to democracy and serve in coalition governments once open military rule ends.

There are no takers for the offer. "The Christian Democrats, the biggest party in the coalition against Pinochet, have already ruled out the inclusion of the communists in a post-Pinochet government. The socialists, one-time communist allies, joined 'Command for the No'."

Fraud
Most opposition groups consider the communists a liability, not least because they are believed to be behind Chile's most active guerrillas, the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR).

The Front failed in an 1986 bid to kill Pinochet and has been blamed for bomb blasts, attacks on military targets, and kidnappings.

While the communists deny any formal link with the FPMR, the party has refused to renounce violence and sticks to a 1980 policy statement which supported "all forms of struggle... overtly or covertly, peacefully or violently, in answer to government repression."

Abducted
Her son Jose Manuel Parrada was one of three communist leaders who were abducted in March 1983, and found with their throats slit in a ditch outside Santiago. The investigating judge said there was clear evidence of police involvement.

Maluenda's late husband, actor Roberto Parrada, was a friend of Pablo Neruda, the Nobel prize-winning poet who served on the Central Committee at the time of Pinochet's coup.

Struggling to hold back tears, Maluenda said in a recent interview with Reuters: "They said I had violated party discipline... They said I must be separated from the party."

"For all these years in the party, I had a price to pay, a very high price... But I know now that the party is out of touch with the masses."

Criticism of Turkish TV reveals ruling party split

of the censure motion. "The West, or Europe, to me is a set of values. If you share those values you are part of it," he added.

The Holy Alliance group of politicians with Muslim fundamentalist leanings in Ozal's Motherland Party had said it planned to vote with the TTP and other opposition parties.

Political sources said up to 100 Motherland deputies were prepared to vote with the TTP, led by Suleyman Demirel, a four-time prime minister and a vowed political foe of Ozal.

Ozal has 291 seats in the 450-seat parliament and such a shift of allegiance would have held the vote in the balance.

Defy
It was the first time the Holy Alliance, led by Mehmet Koceler and Mustafa Tasar, had planned to openly defy Ozal, who sees Turkey's future pinned firmly to the West.

But Ozal, who applied last year for full Turkish membership of the European Economic Community, managed to reach an uneasy truce to avert a split by warning of the dangers and promising a special committee to keep a closer watch over TRT.

And in the event, he defeated the censure motion on a show of hands.

The row over TRT is part of a 65-year-long struggle involving Western tenets behind the modern Turkish republic and a relatively small core of Muslim

fundamentalists. The religious right opposes Turkey's Western outlook and the distance it has put between itself and the Islamic way of life since Mustafa Kemal Ataturk founded the republic in 1923.

Adherents of an ill-defined philosophy of a "Turkish-Islam synthesis" held sway over TRT before Duna's appointment.

"Groups of devout-looking TRT personnel who used to loaf in the corridors but disappear at noon-prayer time are no longer around since Duna took office," one TRT staffer said.

Hurt
Television, broadcasting 130 hours a week on two channels, now reaches 92 per cent of Turkey's 54 million people.

Duna, 41, unperturbed by the political tempest around him, said he felt hurt for a short while after taking office by the sometimes insulting barrage from politicians.

"Of course you mind the fact that you cannot come out and say something because that would be taking you right into polemics, which is what is intended. And then you would be dancing to their tune," he said.

Duna said TRT will soon air a series of programmes on the EEC.

"A second series will explain what has happened to other member countries on entering the Community and what membership has added to or subtracted from that country," he said.

مكتبة اسلامي

Return to the future

With the successful launch and return of America's space shuttle Discovery, hopes are once again revived that man's journey into space is only beginning. This article examines some of the areas of future space travel.

By Adrian Berry

THE flawless flight of America's space shuttle Discovery has been aptly called a "return to the future."

The five astronauts have not only restored faith in NASA's immediate shuttle ambitions (about 50 flights are planned in the next five years), they have revived hopes that man's journey into space is only beginning.

Within 30 years, the foremost experts believe, the reach of our technology will have extended from the present 22,300 miles — the height of communication satellites — to more than 40 million miles, the distance of Mars.

Permanently manned space stations, settlements on the Moon and Mars, the mining of the asteroids — all these will become possible with the assured safe access of people to space; and hydrogen-powered aerospace planes will eventually make the journey up into Earth orbit even cheaper.

The first 200 miles, from the ground to low Earth orbit, is by far the most difficult to travel. For we live at the bottom of a "well of gravity" created by the Earth's large mass. Ninety-seven per cent more energy is needed to travel those 200 miles, to climb out of the well, than to cover the remaining quarter of a million miles to the Moon — and beyond.

Reach

But how do we reach the Moon and beyond? Routine access to space will lead to the construction of the 40 ft-long manned space station, Freedom, that America and Europe plan for the 1990s. Europe will play its part with the forthcoming Ariane-5 rocket carrying the manned Hermes craft to the station. But while Europe looks to Freedom mainly for industrial research in weightlessness (expected to create 100,000 spin-off jobs in the next 20 years), many

American experts see it literally and metaphorically as a launching pad for manned flights to the planets and the construction of permanent bases on them.

The visionaries have set their hearts on Mars, a world with a land surface nearly as big as Earth's with red sandy deserts, pink cloudless skies, chasms wider than the Grand Canyon and mountains taller than Everest. At a conference last month in Geneva, top American and Russian experts agreed that they wanted to build a permanent Martian settlement.

Dr Thomas Paine, former administrator of NASA, and chairman of President Reagan's National Commission on Space, believes the first manned expeditions to Mars, instead of returning home almost immediately, as the Moon astronauts of the Seven-

ties did, will become the nucleus of a permanent colony.

Mars is about 50 degrees colder than Earth, and its air is only about one per cent as rich. Nonetheless, Paine told the Geneva conference, "there is easy access to substances vital for life, like hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen and carbon. The settlers will be able to obtain water from the Martian atmosphere using a condensing machine. They will be able to breathe recycled air. And frozen dried food will enable them to survive for very long periods."

They would be able to stay for at least two years until a second expedition relieved them. "They could exploit the extreme cold by mixing freezing water with soil to build them-

selves safe habitats."

But Mars never comes nearer than 160 times the distance between us and the Moon. Settlers would need to be entirely self-dependent. If, in an emergency, they sought advice from Earth by radio, it would take at least 20 minutes to arrive. Before even going there, astronauts would need the experience of living in another world: the Moon would become a vital way station.

Even before 2010, the year predicted the first manned Mars expedition, the Moon could be covered with industry and habitation. "We've passed the state of tossing out clever ideas for the future of the Moon," I was told by Dr Wendell Mendell of NASA. "We've now started to make hard calculations."

If such dreams are realised, there will be a huge lunar port for ships from Earth orbit. The

Permanently manned space stations, settlements on the moon and Mars, the mining of asteroids — all these will become possible with the assured safe access of people to space.

expensive than making it on the Moon and sending it down.

Such cargo will be most efficiently launched from the Moon not by rocket but by railway. Imagine a sharply rising magnetic rail track, several miles long, that shoots cargo into space at 5,000 mph, the speed necessary to escape from the Moon's low gravity. Cargo thus ejected could be intercepted at any desired point between the Earth and the Moon.

Another invaluable lunar resource will be the isotope helium-3. This will be needed if the world's scientists can achieve on Earth the nuclear fusion which takes place every second in the core of the Sun and thus provide us with everlasting clean energy. Helium-3, combined with deuterium (heavy hydrogen), could produce a nuclear fusion reaction without the danger of radiation by neutrons. The first working fusion reactor is not expected before 2020, though a prototype may come within 15 years.

"If you found gold bricks on the Moon," says Prof Jerry

Kulcinski, a nuclear engineer at Wisconsin University, "you couldn't afford to bring them back. But if today you could bring back a spaceship containing 20 tons of helium-3, your cargo would be worth \$40,000 million."

But it would be absurd for the great powers to get involved in a race to exploit Mars. "We

the Red Planet bears traces of life from a warmer, lushier Martian age 500 million years ago. Yet Mars is not the only long-term goal. Travellers of the solar system will go also to the asteroids, the tens of thousands of tiny planets that lie between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter. They have what the Moon appears to lack —

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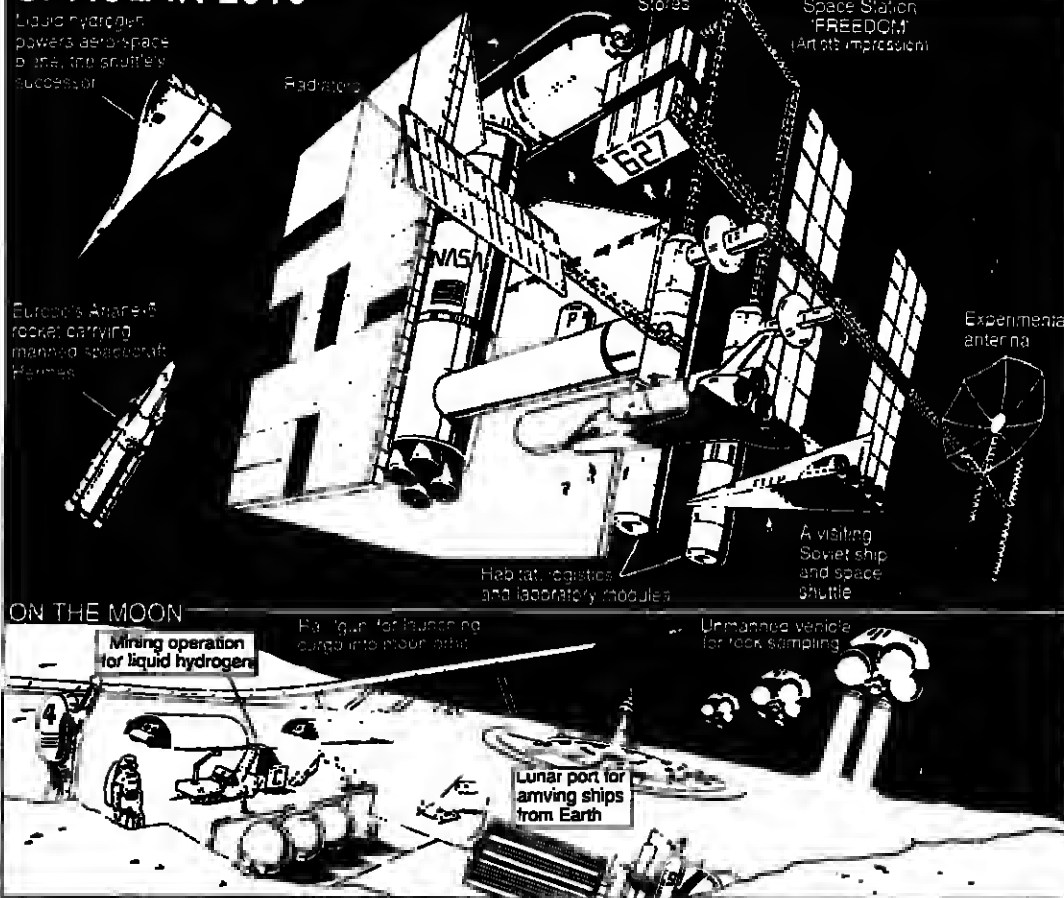
Determined

The Russians are determined to send people to Mars, no matter what it costs. Despite the negative findings of America's unmanned Viking landing in 1976, they are convinced that

water, the source of liquid hydrogen, another essential component of rocket fuel. Asteroids will be the solar system's "petrol stations."

But why should people want to populate the solar system? The question has no rational answer. Dr Paine hopes for the "enrichment of the human spirit." Another answer might be that man is an untiring wanderer who will go wherever he can.

SPACE IN 2010



ON THE MOON

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Is man a machine?

By Rushworth M. Kidder

THE other day an acquaintance, apologizing for forgetting something, quipped, "It's my 64K memory!" His analogy, recognizable to anyone working with computers, compared his brain to a memory chip limited to a puny 64 kilobytes of information. As Charlie Chaplin knew, the idea of man as machine is perpetually funny, so we had a pleasant laugh.

But humour sometimes reveals humanity's deepest concerns. And one of those, today, has to do with the nature of man.

Is man really a machine? In particular, is the mind a kind of computer? In developing the computer, have we simply created a metaphor of ourselves?

Never mind that centuries of philosophy and theology rise in objection to that metaphor. Our resolutely mechanical age seems bent on seeing man as a computer. Not surprisingly, that view shapes our mental climate in several ways:

— Failures of memory. If our educational researchers are to be believed, we're becoming an increasingly amnesiac society. The collective memory of the race, it seems, is fading: Fewer and fewer historical examples dot our political speeches and our daily discourse. Nor, it appears, are students required to memorize facts, formulas, prose, and poetry as they once were.

Complex. Why the change? The reasons are complex. But one of them, surely, has to do with changing views of man. If the mind is but a computer, it's got only a finite capacity for memory. Overload it, and the whole thing will (as the computer folks say) "crash." So why (the argument goes) risk mechanical failure when there are plenty of other data bases besides the brain? Why learn what you can look up?

— Literal interpretations. These days, the news gives us plenty of examples of immorality. The fact that we're disturbed by these stories proves that, somewhere deep in consciousness, we still care about uprightness. More troubling, in some ways, is amorality — the moral void of naive tolerance, baldly denying that some standards, behaviours, or thoughts are better than others. Computers, like all other machines, are amoral. Whether you use the computer to write pornography or sermons makes no difference: It's not affected by what it "thinks." If the man-as-computer metaphor holds, we should be able to think, read, watch, and say whatever we want without it affecting what we "really" are. Fortunately the metaphor doesn't hold. Thinking, as the health professions increasingly realize, does indeed affect the body. And in the end, humanity has reserves of memory, insight, and morality beyond anything a machine could imitate.

The benefits of computers? They're very real. This column, for example, was written on one. But it wasn't written by one — a point worth pondering in an age when the forgetful, the amoral, and the literal sometimes seem to have the keyboard all to themselves.

1988, The Christian Science Monitor.

By Alan Anderson

A UNITED STATES expedition to the Antarctic has returned with the discovery that the frozen winter sea ice is teeming with life.

Out of sight beneath the surface of the Antarctic sea ice is a vast new ecosystem: a labyrinth of narrow tunnels and chambers that offer a cold but secure home to algae, bacteria and large numbers of krill, a shrimp-like crustacean.

The expedition was the first to mount a prolonged study of winter life in the Antarctic ice pack. A team of 45 scientists — drawn from specialists in the United States, Chile, Norway and Denmark — used the Polar Duke icebreaker to penetrate up to 150 miles into the frozen Weddell Sea, a thousand miles south-east of the Falkland Islands.

Adapted

Working around the clock in 12-hour shifts, the team took samples of water from different ocean depths and went out on to the pack to drill out cores of ice. Scuba-divers used dry-suits to collect organisms from beneath the surface of the ice.

The US expedition found that very little of the Antarctic sea ice is clear and solid like the ice cubes made in a refrigerator. Most of it is more like Gruyere cheese, riddled with holes and channels that lead down



The Antarctic ice: nursery to algae and bacteria

Teeming life under the ice

through the six to eight feet of floating ice to the cold sea water beneath.

Inside these channels the scientist found large numbers of algae and bacteria clinging to particles of ice. Even in mid-winter, when the sun comes above the horizon for just a few hours each day, the algae are able to go on tapping the energy of the sunlight.

The algae are specially adapted to the cold. They grow hap-

pily at sub-zero temperatures but in a cool room they just "fall apart and die", according to Cornelius Sullivan, the expedition leader and a professor of marine biology at the University of Southern California.

Feeding on the algae are large numbers of juvenile krill. To them the sea-ice is a hospitable nursery. They are small enough to swim around in the channels that riddle the ice,

grazing on its algal-covered walls. But the krill's predators — fish, squid, penguins and whales — are much too large to get in after them.

When summer comes the krill's home will melt around them. But the meltwater also provides the right conditions for rapid growth. The melt water is fresher and lighter than ordinary sea water and forms a stable floating layer that traps algae keeping them from being swept into the dark ocean depths.

Instead they float at the surface where sunlight is strongest. The result is a rich, ice-edge algal bloom that colours the water green.

As the algal population booms so does that of the krill — and then the whales, fish and penguins arrive to feast upon them in their turn. The ice edge provides a moveable feast. As the ocean warms, 80 per cent of the Antarctic ice will melt, spilling fresh water and seeding it with algae and krill as it recedes.

And as whales knew as far back as the turn of the century, whales follow the krill and are always found in greater numbers where the ice ends and the oceans begin.

The area of ice is enormous. At its maximum it extends a thousand miles into the southern oceans all around the Antarctic continent. Researchers have only been able to venture into its fringes.

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

QUESTION: A friend of mine, when complaining of stomach upset, uses the term "Norwalk tummy ache." What does it mean?

ANSWER: In 1968, in Norwalk, Ohio, an outbreak of gastroenteritis in a school was attributed to a virus that has since been called the Norwalk virus. Stool samples were obtained and found negative for bacteria, so a search for a possible viral agent was begun, and when it was found it was named after the town where the outbreak first occurred. The term has become popular in describing viral stomach upset.

Outbreaks of this type of gastroenteritis occur in all seasons of the year and among every age group. Outbreaks seem to spread through a number of different ways, including food, drinking water and infected people. The duration of the infection lasts from several days to several weeks, and those most susceptible seem to be the younger age group.

Since you gain no immunity with the first

bout, you may experience its effects more than once in your life. It's definitely a disease that is highly infectious, so if your friend does have a Norwalk-type virus, she would be well advised to take precautions against re-infection.

Symptoms of this virus are the same as all of the other that cause stomach problems, flu-like aches, pains and fever, and include vomiting, diarrhoea, chills and headache. Specific remedies are just not available at the present time, so your physician's advice would be to rest, take plenty of fluids and wait it out. Incidentally, eating raw clams has been attributed as a cause of the Norwalk-like virus in some cases, so be on guard.

QUESTION: I'm not a drinker, but I have a beeper that would put W.C. Fields to shame. It's embarrassing, and I am at a loss to explain it. What can I do for my red nose that's growing?

ANSWER: There are number of treatments that may help your red nose, a condi-

tion known as rhinophyma. The antibiotic tetracycline may be useful, as may the vitamin A acne treatments Retin-A (applied to the skin) and Accutane (pills). If medicines don't work, surgery and other medical procedures, such as laser surgery and peeling of the skin surface, may be effective.

It's true that there is a common impression that this is an "alcoholic's nose," but there is little scientific evidence to back that up. Many doctors believe that avoiding spicy foods and caffeine can stop or slow the redness and swelling. Although, here again, there are not yet any solid studies to prove that these foods are truly the culprits, it's certainly worth a try to eliminate them from your diet and see if it helps.

If all else fails, and surgery is not for you, you might consider using cosmetic makeup and powder to reduce the redness and diminish the attention your nose may be getting.

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SAM PITRODA'S story is a classic tale of rags to riches. A carpenter's son from a remote village in Orissa, India, makes millions in the US — and realises the American dream.

Then, the most celebrated non-resident Indian, out to create the 'Indian Dream' makes a dramatic comeback to his roots with a one rupee (100 Rs) salary per year, rising higher and higher as the 'messiah of hi-tech', dubbed the wibizid — the peak yet to come.

For Pitroda coming home means more than realising a dream. "You have a dream, I have a dream, we all have a dream. But that is not the point: it was the right time to go home — to do things that needed to be done."

Pitroda dreams with his "eyes open."

Intertwined with this success story — a sub-plot unfolds, linking the future of millions of Indians, 250 million living below the poverty line — looking up to the Indian government to build an infrastructure and provide basic necessities like water, health care, seeds and literacy, and not necessarily in that order. For urban Indians, one of the most pressing need was for a telecom system that worked — and technology that would serve the needs of a developing society.

That's where Pitroda came in three years ago, fathering the Centre for the Development of Teleinformatics, better known as C-Dot.

His simplified mission was to make telephones work, updating an antiquated network that had driven a high official into the telephone exchange brandishing a gun. The task was not all that easy.

Mission
At any given time, four out of 10 phones don't work in Delhi, and seven of 10 in Calcutta. Bombay is better — seven out of 10 actually work. In a country of 730 million people, there are only three million phones in urban areas and a mere 36,000 public phones.

Pitroda's job was to design an electronic switching system. The mission was a major challenge for Pitroda the "telecom wizard". The bureaucracy scoffed at his ideas and others saw him as a "political wolf". Pitroda was "Rajiv's man", a close Gandhi

aide, and everyone suspected him of angling for a political niche. Gandhi approved his plan and C-Dot was given 36 months to deliver the goods. And Pitroda, working against odds, did the job, silencing his critics.

"Making a telephone work (in India) is not a joke. It's a major challenge, you'd better believe it," he says. Gandhi was so pleased with Pitroda's performance that C-Dot got another 36-month assignment — to design an integrated systems digital network.

On Oct 2 last year, Pitroda quietly entered the inner circles as Gandhi's adviser on technology, holding the rank of a minister of state. Yet, he claims he has "no political ambitions; I'm not lying, I don't need it."

Pitroda's task is to look after five major national missions: drinking water, oilseeds, eradication of illiteracy, immunisation, and telecom.

Can Pitroda handle the daunting task?

"Don't expect me to have all the answers. I can do what I can do," says Pitroda, the man who has his heart set on transforming the technological scene in India.

"For the first time we are trying to bring technology closer to people, mobilise manpower and resources and use them the best way we can in the given circumstances," he explains.

"India is trying to 'demystify technology'. To us, technology is basically a method of problem solving," he says, insisting that technology "is not glamour — hi-tech, computers and electronics."

Strategy

"Growing a better plant is also technology," he says. It is the basics that they are after. And India is conveying this grassroots message to the "highly motivated, bright youngsters, the future builders of India."

India has the third largest scientific manpower in the

'An opportunity of a lifetime'

Realising the Indian dream

Sam Pitroda, the Indian guru of high-tech, made a brief stopover in Kuwait last week. In this in-depth interview he talks to Fathima Ahmed about his mission to bring India into the 21st century.

world after the US and USSR. "Manpower is not the issue," he quips, "the issue is equipment — it costs money. How are we using it? Are we using it effectively?" he asks, and answering the question himself says: "No, we are not."

Pitroda's long-term strategy is clearcut: identify areas for development, study the needs and fill in the blanks. Simple? Not really, not in a traditional society with die-hard attitudes and prevailing reservations; and persistent resistance to change.

Adult literacy is one of the most complicated programmes. "It is very difficult to sell; (it's) not easy to motivate people because there you don't have any tangibles, deliverable and measurable. Tell people to study, they ask you if you'll give them a job," he says.

Literacy, Pitroda believes, has been misrepresented. "Getting a job has nothing to do with literacy. You need literacy to have dignity, to understand your rights and participate in the process of development."

What about modernisation?

Catching up with the West?

"Catching up with the West is not the game — the game is that we have one set of problems — we've got to solve them, using the best available techniques, methods and tools. We're not trying to copy anybody or measure ourselves with x-y-z. Our target has to be (provision of) basic necessities for 250 million (people) living below the poverty line."

What can India do?

"We don't have water testing labs in every district. I'd like to set them up in every block. We have no vaccine testing labs, that's our priority. We are aiming for basic technology. We don't have any esoteric goals."

They have set the targets: provision of drinking water to 100,000 "problem" villages by

the 1990. (Problem villages are those which have no water within 1.6 km diameter.)

"We want to supply 40 litres of water per day per person and 30 litres of water per day per head of cattle; water which is potable, free of guinea worm, excess fluoride and excess iron," he said. To deliver this, they need to provide the infrastructure like setting up water distillation plants to remove brackishness excess iron and fluoride.

Target Immunisation: provide vaccines for 20 million pregnant women and 20 million children every year.

Target Telecom: by the year 2000, 30 million phones and three million public phones; growth in rural telecom, integrated telecom development.

Target Self-reliance:

"Self-reliance is not export-import. It is learning to do things on our own. To create jobs for our people so that we can maintain and manage our own technology. If we import technology — lock-stock and barrel — what can we do?"

"Why should we import vaccine. We have bio-technology expertise. Why can't we make our own?"

And, so with the government's blessings, Pitroda is trying to steer the country toward self-reliance.

Mobilising resources and harnessing technology, in the right direction?

"(It is not) a question of right or wrong direction. The best direction is to use technology to meet basic needs, create an atmosphere..." says Pitroda.

Are you creating an atmosphere?

"I hope so, I certainly hope so... we're trying... doing our best," he says, his confidence says a little.

"What we need is a national campaign of awareness. These

(the six-point national mission) are people's programmes, not governmental programmes. We have been trying to implement them as governmental programmes for the last 40 years (without success); without mobilising people these things cannot be accomplished."

But have you got your priorities right?

"Don't ask such questions," he chides. He was given the six-point national mission, and he is organising it.

When Pitroda speaks his words seem honest even if his ideas seem implausible — at times. He sounds like an idealistic visionary. In reality, he is a practical management man. There is a degree of truth in his message to Indians: "Look around you, and make the best of what you have."

"Our message of modernisation needs to be articulated. That's why we need information — standardised, organised, format information (which is accessible). This is essential (in India) for social transformation," he says, pauses and then comes out with it: "Not too many people want to share information."

This is not the only obstacle. Pitroda's disdain for bureaucracy is common knowledge.

"It's there. What can be done? It (bureaucracy — the system) is there. I don't care if it takes 15 minutes to do a job, but if it takes three hours — there is something wrong somewhere; a lot can be done, a lot should be done."

By whom?

"Everyone. You, me and everyone else. We're all trying our best." He mutters. Pause. Then, he spills venom.

"We (Indians) are cynical people. We externalise our problems. (We say) the problem is there, this should be done; that should be done... people say there is a lack of political will, there is no commitment and so on... But no one says 'how are we going to get things done within the given system.'"

Pitroda tells you:

"We must learn to internalise our problems. We need more concerned, committed and courageous people. We have concerned and committed people, but we don't have courageous people," he claims, and relates an interesting story of a youth who wanted to "advise the prime minister on running the government."

"Everyone gives advice; no one has the courage to take responsibility," he says. What good is rhetoric when you can't make the system work? he asks.

Pitroda certainly knows what makes him tick. A workaholic by admission, he believes his job is to "get out of a job within 90 days." He is adept at doing that — first in the US, where he built his multi-national million dollar empire from scratch and turned a new leaf, looking at bigger and better things, attacking the job at hand with animal ferocity. Fiercely ambitious, despite his claim to the contrary, he seems committed to improve the lot of the hapless Indian, now that he has been given the chance "an opportunity of a lifetime."

Enthusiasm

His enthusiasm is infectious, though his dream seems unrealistic.

"Everything is practical. It's hard to say how close or far I am to realising the Indian Dream. AT C-Dot, the dream has been realised, in water the dream is 70 per cent realised, oilseeds, we have realised the dream because of good rain, immunisation we're struggling, literacy — a difficult task — and C-Dot, the dream has just begun..."

Pitroda — the man — has had his moments of glory. Pitroda the adviser is a team player, a delegate, trying to create an environment where "we all — the under 55-year-olds — feel we have the same goal."

He writes-off "anyone with gray hair — they should take a back seat." But even the gray-haired people have a role to play: "To build a people."



Sam Pitroda: committed to improving the lot of the hapless Indian

"We don't have enough leaders. I'm not talking about political leadership. (Referring to) people who can solve a problem or take responsibility," he laments.

Pitroda is 45 and believes he has 15 more years of "active participation" during which he hopes to transform the technological and, hopefully, the work culture in India, awaken Indians from their slumber and motivate them to take the initiative and create a better India.

Will he succeed?
"If I can get 20 million phones working by the year 2000, and I reach 80 per cent of my target, I'd be a happy man. What is important is to set high targets. Never mind if you can't reach them. Coming close (to targets) and going toward them is what matters..."

Pitroda's present target, among other things, is female literacy. "It is critical. If you have female literacy, you have child health, low infant mortality, family planning and husbands become docile... and everything falls into place."

Will it really?
"I'm verbalising my concerns, mobilising the young, talking to them, and in doing so I put my foot in my mouth." He doesn't care.

"It is the privilege of critics to criticise. It is my job to get the work done," he says. And going by Pitroda's past record

— 90 patents in the US, earning a comfortable cache of millions of dollars and a reputation for entrepreneurship — he means business.

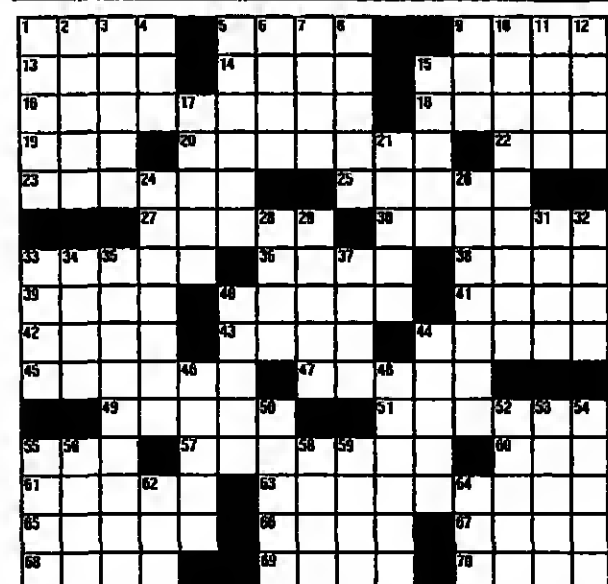
At 42, he returned home. Last year, he got back his Indian nationality. "There comes a point when you have to decide where your priorities lie. I couldn't do what I wanted to do holding US citizenship. Now, he is an Indian — and "not a great communicator." But a great organiser.

He plans his day, his week, his months and his years. And he has no time. "I've got everything except time. There are not enough days in a week, not enough weeks in a month, not enough months in a year. He's trying — unsuccessfully — to organise time — while he works on bringing technology closer to the masses — perhaps to realise the Indian Dream."

"We have a feudal way of looking at things. We are a democracy, people power, instead of running to the government for everything, we must see how we can help ourselves first... India now has the task of converting a system from one based on ordering people to one based on empowering people."

Whether this happens or not only time will tell. But it is certainly an exciting process of change — envisaged by Sam Pitroda, born Satyen Gangaram Pitroda.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Specks
 - Saragossa's a river
 - Tuck away
 - Baseballer Otis
 - Ender beginner
 - Mikhail's lady
 - Rabble-rouser
 - Wing, nfan
 - Business watchdog agency
 - Light for Paul Rava
 - Susan of "L. A. Law"
 - Depth charge
 - Cosmetic item
 - Drhindrance
 - Ignites
 - Actress Ina
 - Off-Broadway award
 - Bridge beam
 - Energy source
 - At — for words
 - Lopez opus
 - Resort for the punctilious?
 - Analogous
 - At — and seven
 - Excortate
 - Starat
 - Got along
 - Rule the day
 - Status —
 - Flared up
 - Word on an env.
 - Open the ginger ale
 - Hot-tempered person
 - "Want to Set the World on Fire"
 - Tuffy maa
 - Pitcher's goals
 - Enthusiasm
 - Mod
- DOWN**
- Former city
 - Skips over
 - Olympic emblem
 - Sub's heading
 - Wayward
 - Noggin
 - Spout off
 - Instruct the waiter
 - Before Diego or Jose
 - Potential hot spot
 - Another name for Hoaea
 - Cerated
 - Accumulated
 - Blister
 - Wine list offerings
 - Imaginary monster
 - Adding weight
 - Pop
 - Thermonuclear threat
 - Cabbage's a kin
 - Sp. ladies
 - Excludes
 - Fan follower
 - Friction matches
 - "Got it"
 - One of the 12 tribes
 - Leather with a napped surface
 - Moved slowly
 - "The glory that was —"
 - C. Day
 - Actor Patrick of "Dallas"
 - Proportion
 - The ring has a main one
 - Succinct
 - Test
 - Wave, in
 - Tidy sum
 - Priam's home
 - Ergate, for one
 - Grain beard
- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**
- ACTUP PATH CIO
CARLE ALAI OREL
CROSS ROME NARY
OUTDOOR CHARACTER
DUSE REAR BOONE
USER ILSA ACRES
MAR CES CAST
ALSTON RESULT
RUDE RED NIE
VENAL LEAN RITE
ERDSE ENNA AGED
INTHEMARKETFOR
LIAM ANIL ATRAP
SERA TONE LENTO
SYN ERGS EDSIL

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

WHAT MUST BE, NEEDN'T BE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 4 2
♥ K J 10 6 4
♦ 9 6 4
♣ 4 3 2

WEST
♠ Q J 10
♥ 5 3 2
♦ K 7 5 2
♣ 9 6 5

EAST
♠ 9 8 7 6 3
♥ 8 7
♦ A Q 3
♣ Q J 10

SOUTH
♠ A K 5
♥ A Q 9
♦ J 10 8
♣ A K 8 7

The bidding:

South West North East

2 NT Pass 3 0 Pass

3 ♥ Pass 3 NT Pass

4 ♥ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠

Declarer has a great advantage

over the defenders. He knows when

the defenders have enough fast

tricks to beat him. That information

is not available to the enemy, so

they do not always succeed in get-

ting their due.

North's three-diamond response

was a transfer to hearts, and his bid

of three no trump showed a bal-

anced hand which included a five-

card heart suit. South might have

been wiser not to have converted to

four hearts—three no trump would have been defeated only if the opponents could take five diamond tricks on the go—but, not unnaturally, he was concerned about his wide-open diamond holding.

West led the queen of spades, and declarer was not overjoyed with his prospects. It seemed that he had three sure losers in diamonds and one in clubs. However, the spade lead offered a temporary reprieve. With a good slice of luck, he saw a line that would get him through if the defenders did not find an immediate diamond shift.

Declarer allowed West's queen of spades to win the first trick! From West's point of view, a diamond switch was not attractive, so he continued with a spade despite his partner's discouraging three-spot. That was won in the closed hand, and the king-ace of trumps were drawn. On the remaining high spade declarer discarded a club. After cashing the ace-king of that suit, he continued by ruffing a club on the board. When the clubs split evenly, the long club in declarer's hand was established. He came back to hand with a trump, discarded a diamond on the good club and cheerfully surrendered two diamond tricks—making four—odd!



"I bought her a cookbook the day we got married. ... It's still in the wrapper."

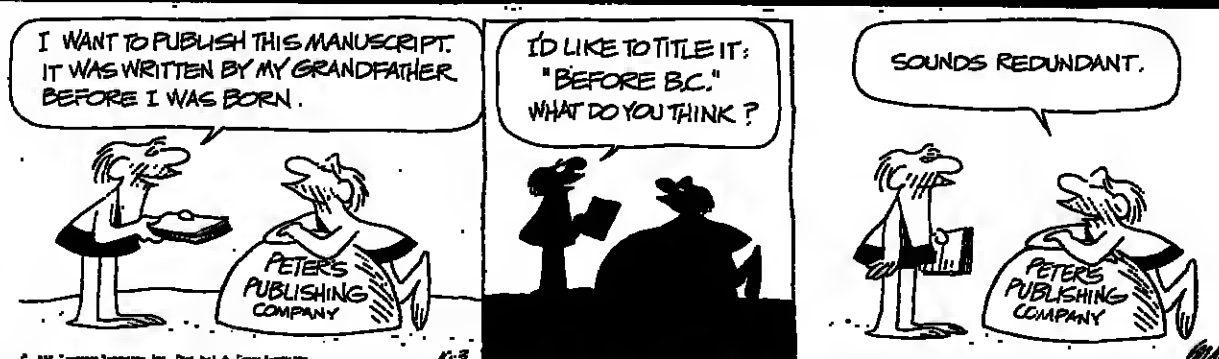
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

- Aries (March 20 - April 18)**
You will find it easier to conserve your financial resources. You are more exposed to stress and should not take everything quite so seriously. Now is the time to take the initiative. Be sincere.
- Cancer (June 21 - July 21)**
Something that you thought would be easy will turn out to be nothing of the kind. You should try to spend a little more time doing what you enjoy doing. However you must not altogether neglect some essential chores. Be loyal.
- Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)**
Now is the time to take steps to maintain your weight — before you put on so much that losing it is a major struggle. Mercury's better influence will help you to do the right thing. Take especial care whilst on the road.
- Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19**
You would do well to show a little more goodwill towards others. You should do all you can to avoid allowing your emotions to get the upper hand. Make sure you are not late for an appointment. Be amenable.
- Taurus (April 19 - May 19)**
The Moon's more favourable influence will help you to control your temper. You will not be as nervous as you have been of late. Do not place too much reliance on your intuitions. Be resilient.
- Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)**
You should not allow work to take up too much of your waking time. Avoid getting into an argument about something that is not really of great importance. Take a little more care about your personal appearance. Be resolute.
- Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)**
The Moon's better influence will help you to put right a wrong. Do your best to accept what cannot be altered. You are wrong if you think others will do just what you would like them to do. Be tactful.
- Gemini (May 20 - June 20)**
You should not allow your emotions to distort your judgement. You are liable to get your priorities wrong. You should pay more attention to what others are saying. Be reliable.
- Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)**
Try to show a little more goodwill towards others and use a little more commonsense too. You will have a good opportunity to make amends. Avoid eating more than you need to maintain your weight. Be hopeful.
- Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)**
Before you set out on a journey you would do well to study a map of the area you are to visit. You are all too liable to be deceived by appearances. Take better care of your health. Be reasonable.
- Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)**
Today you are all too liable to jump to wrong conclusions. You should try to concentrate on essentials. Try not to get in other people's way. Be cheerful.
- Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)**
You should let others express their opinions. You will have some ideas but they will not all be good. Once you have made up your mind have the courage of your convictions. Be courteous.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Egypt, IMF try to thrash out their differences

CAIRO, Oct. 24, (Reuters): An International Monetary Fund (IMF) team started talks today with Egyptian officials aimed at settling differences about the way the country's economy is being run.

The team met Central Bank Governor Salah Hamid and was expected to meet other cabinet ministers, an IMF official said. The IMF wants Egypt to slash its five-billion-pound (\$2.2-billion) budget deficit, increase domestic interest rates and reduce subsidies on fuel and food.

Egypt is resisting the IMF requests and wants to go slow on economic reform to avoid a repeat of the unrest that broke out in 1977 when subsidies were axed.

Efforts

The talks follow President Hosni Mubarak's efforts during his European trip in September to win support for his economic plans.

France announced full support for the scheme while Britain and West Germany promised to study it.

Other creditors, including Kuwait, also promised support.

Egypt has rescheduled by the end of June payments of more than \$6 billion in its \$43-billion foreign debt.

OPEC discusses 1989 budget

KUWAIT, Oct. 24, (Reuters): The executive board of the cash-strapped Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) discussed its 1989 budget today ahead of a ministerial meeting next month, a spokesman said.

OPEC groups Algeria, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates — all members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) — with Bahrain and Syria.

The organisation, formed in 1968 to promote joint Arab energy projects, has suffered from the drop in its members' oil revenues since world oil prices began to fall in 1982. The 1988 budget was slashed 40 per cent from 1987 to 1.3 billion dinars (\$4.5 million).

Industrial output climbs

China puts brakes on overheating economy

BEIJING, Oct. 24, (Reuters): China's Communist leaders are grappling with problems that might even have vexed Karl Marx.

To counter the worst inflation since the Communist Party took power in 1949, the government has halted key price reforms, once central to a reform programme begun 10 years ago.

"If Marx himself were in charge of the economy, I'm not sure he would know what to do," said leading economist Tong Dalin.

China is looking for ways to cool an overheated economy and cut soaring inflation partly fuelled by panic buying.

While agreeing to maintain China's opening to the West, there is little consensus on anything else.

Inflation — almost unheard of just 10 years ago — surged by

more than 16 per cent over the first nine months of this year, according to official figures.

China has not disclosed the rate for September, but the most recent monthly figures showed inflation topped a year-on-year 19 per cent in July. Foreign economists say it might be higher.

Industrial output climbed 20 per cent in September, and officials have said inflation helped fuel the rise.

In August, bank runs were reported in Shanghai, Canton and the northeast city of Harbin. Fearing further price rises, people rushed to get money out to buy goods. Panic buying led to shortages of towels, soap and salt in a number of cities.

There are already signs of growing labour unrest. At least 49 strikes occurred in the country in the first half of 1988.

The blame has been placed squarely on price reforms, designed

to stimulate production and end shortages by raising prices — long held artificially low by huge subsidies.

Price rises had "exposed complaints from citizens" and "made many people uneasy," Premier Li Peng said this month. Public order and people's faith in the reforms were badly hit, he said.

"Price reforms must move in step with other reforms," Li told a meeting of the State Council (cabinet).

"You don't send a single soldier deep into enemy territory without support," he said.

The retreat from price reforms has raised questions about what is shaping China's economic policy, leading to speculation that Communist Party chief Zhao Ziyang, long an advocate of fast growth, is no longer in command.

But economists and Western diplomats say that, while Zhao's

star may not be rising, he has accepted slower growth.

China's top Communist Party body, the Central Committee, last month put its seal of approval on the slowdown, saying it would take the next two years to strengthen the strained economy before resuming price reforms.

Ideas

The inflation target for next year is under 10 per cent, but diplomats say it could double.

Since 1978, China has opened the door to Western investment and technology, adopting ideas that were once shunned as "capitalist" in a bid to modernise its economy.

While Chinese leaders take pains to say that has not changed, they are less clear about how to proceed with reforms.

Chinese economists and Western diplomats say that Beijing faces hard choices — it must cut

government spending and give the central bank more power to tighten the purse strings.

But tough measures are certain to provoke resentment, particularly from local governments that have benefited from the fast-growth policies of recent years.

"Each region is competing to outdo its neighbours with investment projects," said Tong of the Restructuring Society. "We all know we must cut back but no one listens."

Spending

China has warned of new cuts in capital spending. State television has shown film of half-finished hotels and other construction projects abandoned because of lack of funds.

But many people remain sceptical. Authorities ordered a 20-per cent cut in construction spending this year but spending still climbed 15 per cent between January and July.

Takeover specialist offers \$20b for RJR Nabisco

NEW YORK, Oct. 24, (Reuters): The leveraged-buyout firm of Kohlberg Kravis Roberts and Co. said today it will offer to pay \$90 a share, or about \$20 billion, for tobacco and food giant RJR Nabisco Inc., topping an earlier \$17 billion proposal.

It would be the largest corporate buyout in history.

On Thursday top executives from RJR Nabisco with the support of the investment firm of Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc. informally agreed to buy the company for \$75 a share.

Kohlberg Kravis, which has taken a number of major companies private in such leveraged-buyout transactions, including Beatrice Cos Inc., said that its offer would be a combination of 87 per cent cash and the remainder in securities.

Bid

Kohlberg Kravis, which normally acquires companies only on friendly terms, said the completion of its bid was conditioned upon approval by the RJR Nabisco board.

Kohlberg Kravis said it would begin a cash tender for 87 per cent of RJR Nabisco's shares later this week. After the merger, the remaining 13 per cent of the shares will be exchanged for securities valued at \$90 a share.

The specific terms of the securities will be determined in discussions with financial advisers.

isers in an RJR independent board committee appointed to evaluate offers.

The tender offer also will be conditioned, among other things, upon completion of financing, the company said.

The new development was expected to cause another steep rise in the shares of RJR Nabisco.

Merrill Lynch and Co. Inc. said after the offer was announced that it was trading the shares in London at \$84 to \$86. The shares closed on Friday at \$76.75.

RJR Nabisco, an Atlanta-based company produces and markets a broad range of consumer products ranging from Winston cigarettes to Ritz crackers. It is the 19th largest US industrial company.

The buyout offers for RJR Nabisco, if carried through, would easily top the \$13.2 billion Chevron Corp. acquisition of Gulf Oil Co. as the largest buyout on record.

Activity

Recent weeks have seen intense activity in the mergers field, including an \$11.5 billion takeover bid for Kraft Inc. by RJR Nabisco's archrival Philip Morris Cos Inc. and Grand Metropolitan PLC's bid for Pillsbury Co.

The heavy takeover activity reflects sentiment that stock

prices may be undervalued since the 1987 stock market crash, and also a wave of restructuring in the food industry as big companies combine into international marketing giants.

RJR Nabisco and Philip Morris shares in particular have lagged other large publicly traded companies because of their large tobacco units, which have been hit by health claims

and anti-smoking campaigns. Shifting consumer patterns and health concerns have been shrinking the cigarette market in the United States, but the companies remain highly profitable.

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Next US president must take steps to reduce deficit: study

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts, Oct. 24, (AP): The next president must take major steps to turn around a US economy destabilised by an entrenched budget deficit and fundamental policy flaws, a Harvard Business Review report said last week.

In a set of eight papers, experts from consumer activist Ralph Nader to Nobel laureate Paul Samuelson offer the next president economic advice amid a presidential campaign that is producing "a lot of partisan nissness" but little serious deliberation, according to the magazine.

Instability

"There's a fundamental basic instability in the economic system right now," Harvard Business Review editor Theodore Levitt said, summing up the papers. "There is a kind of economic quicksand and we've got to face the reality — but we need some reality therapy."

The magazine asked the advisers, some of whom wear opposite political stripes, to write

separate memos advising the next president on a range of economic issues shortly after the Democratic convention in July. The 42-page report will appear in the magazine's November-December issue.

The underlying conclusion: a fundamental instability in the US economic system needs to be addressed. Indeed, the federal budget deficit is so deeply rooted that it won't be resolved in the normal course of economic events.

Samuelson, a Massachusetts Institute of Technology professor emeritus, argues that the electorate — not better, fear of alienating the electorate — has "frighted away all candidates from even discussing vital economic issues."

He said the next president should spend his first year trying to reduce the deficit from about 3 per cent of the nation's \$4 trillion gross national product toward 2 per cent.

Samuelson said the next goal would be to reduce that figure to

1 per cent and by 1992, eliminating all deficit, that isn't cyclical. Cyclical deficits are tied in inflation, unemployment and other economic conditions.

Advice

The experts — two of whom advise the presidential candidates, Democrat Michael Dukakis and Republican George Bush — offer detailed advice for increasing capital formation, modernising the nation's manufacturing base and overhauling public education.

"Tell the American people the truth — that today's apparent prosperity is being borrowed from the future, that our children will be angry and frustrated when they are left with a lower standard of living," advises Clyde Prestowitz Jr., a former columnist for Japan affairs to the Secretary of Commerce.

Nader, a thorn in the side of big business for 25 years, surprisingly argues that government can learn from business in becoming more efficient, humane, creative and responsive.

Researchers develop process to manufacture superconducting fibre

ROCHESTER, New York, Oct. 24, (UPI): Researchers have developed a ceramic fabrication process they believe will allow the mass production of superconducting fibre that wastes no electric current.

A research team at Alfred University near Rochester developed the process, which integrates superconductive material into a ceramic form.

Superconductivity is the ability of a material to carry an electric current without resistance or heat. Electrical conductors now in use lose about 40 per cent of the original electrical charge before the current reaches the consumer.

Scientists hope to someday apply the concept to such uses as cost-free power generation and superfast trains built with superconductive magnets.

While ceramics with superconductive properties have been produced before, they are too

brittle for practical use as power-conducting fibres, the researchers said.

The new technique starts with the production of a form of glass that contains superconductive crystals. The glass is then converted into a ceramic that can itself be formed into fibres. The fact that the ceramic has glass properties makes it and those fibres significantly more flexible and less brittle — and potentially usable on a mass basis, the researchers said.

Technique

"This is the first (superconductive) device which could practically be used to move electricity. We've shown here nature will let us do this, now we have to make it practical," said Dr Robert Snyder, professor of ceramic engineering and the director of the Institute for Ceramic Superconductivity.

Snyder said the new technique permits the mass production of

superconductivity fibre — a step that had eluded researchers until now.

Snyder said the research conducted at Alfred had superconductivity occurring at 90 degrees kelvin, or minus 247 degrees Fahrenheit. If and when higher temperature superconductors are developed, Snyder said he is confident the glass-ceramic technique will be able to work in the higher temperatures.

"We believe so, but we just haven't proven it yet," Snyder said in a telephone interview.

Atit Bhargava, a post-doctoral fellow at the State College of Ceramics at Alfred, said the process takes the work of Paul Chu, a University of Houston scientist who two years ago discovered the elements that make superconductivity practical, a step further.

"This is the first way we've developed to make practical devices, Bhargava said.



LONDON
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	NAME	LAST
ABEY LIFE	134.0	INCHCAPE	207.0
AD LTY	485.0	JAGUAR	258.0
ALD LYONS	485.0	LADROCK	452.0
AMSTRAD	05.00	LAND SECS	571.5
ARRELL GP	177.0	LAPORTE	405.0
ASDA GP	151.5	LASMO	502.0
BAA	291.0	LEGAL-GEN	313.0
BAT INDS	466.0	LONRHO	362.0
BARCLAYS	428.0	LUCAS IND	588.0
BASS	803.0	MAGNET	214.0
BEAVER	188.0	MARKS-SP	169.0
BEECHAM	472.0	MARRELL C	194.0
BERRIFORD	405.0	MB GROUP	267.0
BICC PLC	383.0	MEPC	560.5
BLUE ARMY	100.0	MIDLAND BK	432.0
BLUE CIRC	58.54	NEST	177.0
BOC GP	420.0	NTN FOODS	290.0
BOOTS CO	222.0	P & O DFD	577.0
BPS INDS	58.00	PEARL	461.0
BR CORP	233.0	PEARSON	715.0
BR AIRWAY	67.00	PILKINGTON	219.0
BR AEROSP	487.00	PLESSEY	162.0
BR GAS RE	162.00	POLLY PEC	306.0
BR GAS RT	162.00	RACAL	347.0
BR LAND	349.00	RANK HVIS	390.5
B.P.	241.0	RANK ORG	724.0
B.P.PP	140.0	ROKITTY+CO	945.0
BR TELCOM	243.00	REDLAND	448.0
BURTON	533.00	REED	405.0
CABLEWIR	395.0	RIL BK SC	496.0
CADBURYS	378.00	RMC GRP	503.0
COATS VVI	173.00	ROZ CORP	438.0
COMN INT	342.00	RTLS ROY	135.5
COMS GOLD	240.00	ROTUNDA B	441.0
COOKSON	275.00	ROYAL INCH	384.0
COURTAULD	301.00	SAINTSBURY	203.0
CALSTEY	144.00	SCOTT+NEW	401.0
CHINA	508.5	SEARS	133.0
ENTER OIL	577.00	SEEDWICK	232.0
FTI BARCK	127.00	SHELL	977.0
FERRANTI	95.4	SIEBE	383.0
FISONS	260.00	SLOUGH EB	315.0
GATEWAY	172.00	STO.CHART	497.0
GEN ACCID	867.00	STC	291.0
GEN ELEC	167.00	STORENSE	187.0
GLAXO	027.00	SUN ALLIA	022.5
GRAMADA	323.00	TANHAC	247.0
GLOBE	146.5	TATELTYE	860.0
GLYNED	290.00	TYLR WOOD	612.0
GUARD RYL	184.00	TESCO	105.0
GUN	323.00	TSE	149.5
GUINNESS	345.00	T+H	183.0
HARRISON	49.50	TRUSTEE	263.0
HARRISON C	645.00	ULTRAMAR	240.0
HICKER SID	547.00	UNILEVER	68.00
HILLSDOM	277.00	UNIGATE	290.00
ICI	069.00	UTD BISC	316.00
		UTD MNSP	417.00
		MELLORNE	84.51
		UNIBUD IN	294.0
		WILLIAMS	262.0
		WILLIS FB	244.0
		WIMPEY GE	284.0
		WOOLWORTH	254.0

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN	NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALICE	752.0	753.0	BORTHWICK	61.0	61.0
600 GROUP	112.0	112.0	BR ARROW	106.0	106.0
A.AMER TS	365.0	364.0	BR ASSETS	74.0	70.0
A.S.ELECT	447.0	448.0	BR DREGI	142.0	141.0
A.S.V.HLD	190.0	190.0	BR VITA	232.0	232.0
AAB KENT	83.0	84.0	BRECK CHE	130.0	130.0
AAN NLD	256.0	257.0	BRECK INTL	356.0	357.0
AARONSON	127.0	126.0	BRITANNIC	179.0	179.0
ADDITION	35.4	35.0	BRITANNIC	355.0	354.0
ADJUST	341.0	341.0	BRIXTON E	360.0	360.0
ALCO COLL	132.0	133.0	BRYANT GP	134.0	135.0
ALD IR B	268.0	269.0	BSG INTL	67.4	68.0
ALD LON	130.0	130.0	BSR INTL	65.0	65.0
ALD PLNT	65.0	66.0	BULLOUGH	477.0	478.0
ALLIANCE	850.0	850.0	BULMER HP	161.0	163.0
AMBER DAY	52.0	52.0	CALENDONIA	353.0	352.0
AMEC	358.0	357.0	CALOR GRP	385.0	383.0
AMER YST	151.4	152.0	CAMB ELEC	226.0	226.0
AMERSHAM	575.0	575.0	CANFOR E	188.0	188.0
AMT HLTHC	250.0	250.0	CANFING W	218.0	218.0
ANGLIA TV	210.0	211.0	CANNON ST	264.0	263.0
ANSCHER	25.4	25.0	CAP.RADIO	445.0	444.0
APPLYARD	462.0	461.0	CARDON	341.0	342.0
APV PLC	130.4	130.0	CARLON EX	173.0	174.0
ASHLEY LA	112.0	110.0	CARTON C	624.0	621.0
ATWODDS	307.0	308.0	CATER ALL	350.0	350.0
AUST REED	372.0	370.0	CATTLE ID	64.0	64.0
AUTO SECS	279.0	278.0	CAULDON	10.0	10.0
AVDEL PLC	77.4	78.0	CENL TV	570.0	568.0
AVIS EUR	339.0	338.0	CHAM PHR	209.0	209.0
AVON RUBB	401.0	400.0	CHARYERHA	20.0	20.0
B.EUNILL	187.0	188.0	CHAS CHUR	109.0	109.0
BAILL JAP	448.0	448.0	CHLORIDE	55.0	56.0
BAILL SNI	77.0	77.0	CHRISTIES	600.0	600.0
BALD (W)	235.0	235.0	CI GROUP	49.0	49.0
BANK IR	268.0	270.0	CNTRL SEC	51.4	51.0
BANKER 11	76.0	76.0	CNTRL OIL	167.0	166.0
BART DEV	174.0	174.0	COALITE	323.0	322.0
BARTYNS C	30.4	31.0	COATES BR	308.0	308.0
BBA GROUP	175.0	175.0	COLLINS A	466.0	468.0
BEAR B.M	4.0	4.0	COLLINS W	545.0	543.0
BEAR BRID	10.0	10.0	COLLOROLL	178.0	179.0
BEATTIE J	150.0	150.0	CONNELLS	255.0	255.0
BEJAM GP	166.0	167.0	COSTAIN	335.0	334.0
BELHAVEN	52.4	54.0	COURTS FR	215.0	215.0
BELLWAY	245.0	245.0	COWIE (T)	152.0	152.0
BENLOX	50.0	49.0	CRH	141.0	142.0
BENKELEY	283.0	285.0	CRODA INT	192.0	193.0
BHAM MINT	44.0	44.5	CRYSTALAT	160.0	160.0
BHM GROUP	106.0	106.0	CTRY PROP	265.0	265.0
BK OF SCO	361.0	361.0	DARES EST	29.2	29.0
BLACK LE	13.2	13.0	DAVIS GPD	155.0	154.0
BNETT +F	37.0	37.0	DAVY CORP	163.0	163.0
BOASE HAS	249.0	248.0	DE LA RUE	476.0	475.0
BODDINGTON	161.0	161.0	DELTA GRP	288.0	288.0
BODY SHOP	604.0	605.0	DEVENISH	319.0	317.0
BOOT HEHR	391.0	391.0	DEWINTER	412.0	412.0

101/0	HESTAIR	325/0	326/0	SA
106/0	HEYWOOD W	287/0	285/0	SA
70/0	HICKS IN	231/0	231/0	SC
141/0	HIGGS HIL	366/0	362/0	SC
233/0	HMBRO CTY	75/0	75/0	SC
1032/0	HMBRO 2OP	252/0	251/0	SC
3557/0	HHTA SPHR	177/0	178/0	SC
996/0	HOLMES PR	121/0	120/0	SC
1954/0	HOMDEN GP	125/0	125/0	SC
1360/0	HPOKINSON	101/0	100/0	SC
156/0	HTV GROUP	252/0	252/0	SC
68/0	ICE.FZ.FD	342/0	343/0	SC
65/0	IMRY N.DV	408/0	408/0	SE
478/0	INDPNDT W	12/0	12/0	SE
63/0	INOCO PLC	29/0	29/0	SH
352/0	INT.BU.CN	122/0	122/0	SH
3883/0	INT.CITY	127/0	128/0	SH
226/0	INV.CAP.	344/0	345/0	SM
1818/0	JHNSNFR	45/4	45/4	SM
264/0	JOS HUGES	165/0	167/0	SP
218/0	KALAMAZOO	48/0	48/0	SP
263/0	KALON GRP	34/0	33/4	ST
445/0	KELT ENGY	32/0	34/0	ST
242/0	KETSON	78/0	78/0	ST
521/0	KLMRT O'S	133/0	134/0	ST
66/0	KLUK SAVE	362/0	362/0	ST
10/0	KWIK-FIT	117/0	117/0	ST
168/0	LAING 'A'	315/0	315/0	SL
59/0	LAING ORB	315/0	315/0	SL
49/0	LAING PRP	495/0	495/0	SL
51/0	LAIRD GRP	253/0	251/0	SL
56/0	LANDELSH	348/0	348/0	TH
500/0	LAURANCE W	149/0	149/0	TH
49/0	LBN & MET	180/0	181/0	TH
51/0	LBN INTL	221/0	221/0	TH
66/0	LDN SHOP	254/0	253/0	TH
328/0	LDN LTD	128/0	130/0	TH
66/0	LDNEDIN	138/0	139/0	TH
308/0	LEX SERV	593/4	594/0	TC
668/0	LIFE SCIE	55/0	55/0	TC
443/0	LILLEY FJ	54/0	54/0	TC
79/0	LIT	148/0	149/0	TC
255/0	LLOYD THP	211/0	213/0	TC
334/0	LOCAL LON	527/0	530/0	TK
1515/0	LOGICA	382/0	380/0	TK
193/0	LOW (M)	655/0	655/0	TK
93/0	LOWBONNER	229/0	228/0	TK
93/0	LOWDES	78/0	78/0	TK
665/0	M&G GROUP	338/0	337/0	TR
29/4	M.C.PACIF	167/0	167/0	TR
63/0	MACARTHY	249/0	249/0	TR
258/0	MAJEDIE	92/0	92/0	TV
1717/0	MANDERS	216/0	217/0	TV
42/0	MARKEATH	213/0	213/0	U-
1616/0	MARLEY	77/0	77/0	U-
96/0	MATTHEWS	178/4	178/0	U-
111/0	MAUDERS	85/0	85/0	U-
62/0	MAUDERS	101/0	101/0	U-
93/0	MCKENCHIE	329/0	327/0	U-
111/0	MENEC	227/0	227/0	U-
632/0	MENZIES	313/0	312/0	U-
161/0	MERCH. TST	156/4	155/4	U-
97/0	MERLIN IN	117/0	116/0	U-
63/0	METAL CLS	202/0	203/0	U-
192/0	METALRUS	87/0	87/0	U-
72/0	METASUM	182/0	183/0	U-
92/0	Meyer INT	407/0	406/0	U-
122/0	RIDSLUND	182/0	183/0	U-
11/0	W. BLDGGS	117/0	117/0	U-

International Bond Highlights

London — Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp is issuing a 250 mln dlr Eurobond due November 28, 1998 paying 9-3/8 pct and priced at 101-1/4 pct, lead manager Merrill Lynch-capital markets said. (RTVI 0903)

London — HMC Mortgage Notes 101 PLC, a unit of Household Mortgage Corporation PLC, is issuing a 100 mln stg Eurobond due November 17, 1993 paying 11-1/8 pct and priced at 102-1/4 pct, lead manager J.P. Morgan Securities said. (RTWL 1118)

Frankfurt — The West German federal government will set terms of a new domestic bond on Thursday after a meeting of the federal bond consortium, the Bundesbank said. (RTX1 1252)

Stockholm — A Crown bond issued on behalf of the World Bank has sent domestic yields on long-term paper tumbling on speculation that Sweden might deregulate the home market and so open the door to lower interest rates, analysts say. (RTWF 1105)

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 11-7/8 5/8	12 11-7/8	12-1/8 12
FFY 4.70/80	4.85/95	5.00/05
PAR 7-3/4 7/8	7-13/16 15/16	8 8-1/8
ZUR 1-5/8 1-7/8	3-3/8 3-5/8	3-5/8 3-7/8
BREX 7.50	7-13/16 3/16	7-1/4 5/16
ROM 10-3/8 10-7/8	11 11-1/2	11-3/8 11-7/8
AMS 4.00/25	5.21/31	5.30/40
TOK 3.8750 9575	4.1875 2500	3.2500 3125
EDU 7.31 7.56	7.37 7.50	7.50 7.62

Interest Rates

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	6-1/8	6-1/2
3 months	6-1/4	6-5/8
6 months	6-5/16	6-11/16
1 year	6-5/16	6-3/4

BOMBAY

PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	93	84 NICO	665	660	680
ACC 283.50	296	308	GRASIN	57.50	59	58.50	114	113
ASIA PAINT 220.50	230	227.50	GSFC	141.25	143.75	ORAY	36.25	37
BAJAJ AUTO 402.50	400	400	NIND LEVER	87	91	88	37	36
BAR. RAYON 310	320	322.50	INDALCO	121	124	124	84	88
BOR. OYING 119	141	142	NINDCOCA	116.25	117.50	120	48.50	48.50
BSE INDEX 656.12	678.67	IND ORG	33.50	33	33	62	62	63
CATERPILAR 1320	1355	1375	INDRAYON	43	44.50	45	176	186.50
COLGATE 306.50	315	325	INDROL	80	80	81	108	110
DESPAKERT 46.50	46	45.50	ITC	287.50	285	SPIC	52.50	52.50
EL. HOTEL 55	50	55	JKSUYTH	88.75	87	87.50	340	350
ESKATYF 145	147.50	155	L AND T	132	134.50	134.50	102	104
ESSAR 23	24.50	23.75	MANIDRA	102	104	107	700	710
GAR. POLY 112.50	105	MASTERSHR	18.50	18.25	18.50	TISCO	947.50	952.50
GE. SHIP 41.50	40.50	40.50	MAYERH PL	86.25	85	VOLYAS	420	410

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
AEG	173.0
ALFA ROMEO	173.0
BAELENBERG	179.5
BASF	279.6
BAYER	303.5
BAYER AG	372.0
BAYER VER	378.0
BBC	318.0
BIF	413.0
BHW	525.5
COMMERZBANK	249.0
CONIT GERM	264.1
DATMER BEN	733.0
DEUTSCHE BANK	530.0
DLW	388.0
DRESNER	297.0
DT BABCOCK	169.5
EDISON	530.0
FELDMANN	325.0
GOLDMANN	400.0
HANSEATIC	302.5
HOFMEIER	166.0
HORSTEN	203.0
HUSSEL HLD	467.0
KALI SALZ	158.5
KARSTADT	455.0
KAUFRUF	419.0
KLOCKHEIM	137.0
KLOCKHEIM	101.5
KLING	706.0
LUFTHANSA	152.0
MAN	210.5
MANHESMAN	187.5
MERCEDES	608.0
METALLURG	333.0
REITZEL	404.0
ROSKOPF	276.0
SAATCHI	57.0
PRUSSAG	185.0
REUMETAL	231.0
RUE	340.5
RUE	238.0
RUE	217.5
SALAMANDER	289.0
SCHERING	549.0
SEL	290.0
SIEMENS	477.2
THYSEN	168.6
WARTA	306.0
VEBA	265.3
VEW	159.4
VOLKSWAGEN	300.0

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
C N TUNNEL	15.30
CHUNG K	7.35
CHINA GAS	16.50
CHINA L-P	16.10
CHINA MOP	22.80
CHINA NPD	3.10
CHINA PAC	4.48
CHINA PAC	7.75
CHINA PAC	44.00
CHINA PAC	8.80
CHINA PAC	581.69
CHINA PAC	5.25
CHINA PAC	27.60
CHINA PAC	9.70
CHINA PAC	6.95
CHINA PAC	8.10
CHINA PAC	8.35
CHINA PAC	6.25
CHINA PAC	5.40
CHINA PAC	5.15
CHINA PAC	8.40
CHINA PAC	10.20
CHINA PAC	13.60
CHINA PAC	8.40
CHINA PAC	11.80
CHINA PAC	2.57
CHINA PAC	6.85
CHINA PAC	1.91
CHINA PAC	11.30
CHINA PAC	2.10
CHINA PAC	2.67
CHINA PAC	18.00
CHINA PAC	14.20
CHINA PAC	3.82
CHINA PAC	1.51
CHINA PAC	0
CHINA PAC	0
CHINA PAC	0
CHINA PAC	3.85

TOKYO

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE	STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE	STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
AJINOMOTO	2580	2610	DAI NIP	815	815
AKAI ELEC	546	562	DAI NIP	815	815
AKAI	955	960	DAI NIP	815	815
ASAHI GLS	1820	1820	DAI NIP	815	815
ASAHI OPT	605	595	DAI NIP	815	815
BANK TOKYO	1540	1550	DAI NIP	815	815
BIDGESTON	1200	1220	DAI NIP	815	815
CANON	1270	1250	DAI NIP	815	815
CASIO COMP	1210	1240	DAI NIP	815	815
CHUGAI PHM	1420	1430	DAI NIP	815	815
CITIZEN Y	800	785	DAI NIP	815	815
D-CHI KAN	3080	3090	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	823	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	2550	2600	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	0	880	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	749	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	751	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	1920	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	2300	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	921	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	1810	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	1450	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	3130	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	3180	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	1590	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	756	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	1440	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	1940	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	2100	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	3930	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	924	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	13300	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	698	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	1640	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	3400	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	1580	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	752	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	948	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	1710	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	799	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	869	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	4510	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	1380	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	2900	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	2230	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	0	DAI NIP	815	815
DAI NIP	815	916	DAI NIP	815	815

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSE DOWN, OFF LOWS, IN YTHN TRADE. TOKYO, OCT 24, REUTER - SHARE PRICES FLUCTUATED MODERATELY IN THE MINUS ZONE THROUGH THE DAY TO CLOSE JUST ABOVE THEIR LOWS IN THIN, DULL TRADE, BROKERS SAID.

"WE HAVE THE TRIPLE MERITS OF A HIGH YIELD, LOW OIL PRICES AND LOW INTEREST RATES TO SUPPORT THE MARKET," SAID TADAYASU HASEGAWA AT KOKUSAI SECURITIES CO. LTD. "BUT THE NEGATIVE FACTORS OF THE RECRUIT COSMOS SCANDAL, A (POSSIBLY STRICTER) CAPITAL GAINS TAX AND THE HEALTH OF THE EMPEROR ARE OUTWEIGHING THESE," HE SAID.

THE NIKKEI INDEX DROPPED 57.03 POINTS, OR 0.21 PCT, TO 27,281.54. IT ENDED 62.85 POINTS LOWER ON SATURDAY.

THE FIRST SECTOR INDEX, OR TOPIX, WAS DOWN 7.67 POINTS AT 2,111.24, AFTER LOSING 7.65 POINTS ON SATURDAY.

DECLINERS LED GAINERS BY ABOUT SEVEN TO FIVE WITH 464 ISSUES DOWN AND 336 UP, IN LIGHT TURNOVER OF 600 MLN SHARES AGAINST 450 MLN IN SATURDAY'S HALF-DAY TRADE.

LOSERS WERE LED BY SECURITIES HOUSE, PHARMACEUTICAL, NON-LIFE INSURANCE, RETAIL, COMMUNICATIONS, ELECTRICAL, BANK, PULP/PAPER, GAS AND SOME MANUFACTURING ISSUES.

THE TOP TEN WINNERS WERE SERVICE, OIL, WAREHOUSE, ROLLING STOCK, STEEL, CHEMICAL, FOOD, GLASS/CEMENT, PRECISION INSTRUMENTARY AND TRUCKING STOCK SHARES.

THE INDEX MOVED NARROWLY BETWEEN A HIGH OF 27,377.85 AND A LOW OF 27,258.07.

"TODAY'S A MONDAY, AND MONDAYS ARE NEVER GOOD," SAID ONE BROKER.

"A LOT OF LITTLE THINGS ARE DRAGGING ON THE MARKET, SO IT KIND OF MOVES IN A ZONE. AS SOON AS THESE ARE REMOVED, THE MARKET WILL TAKE OFF," SHE SAID.

CONCERN THAT THE ESCALATING RECRUIT COSMOS SCANDAL COULD PROMPT A TIGHTER CAPITAL GAINS TAX AND STRICTER INSIDER TRADING REGULATIONS ARE CAUSING WARINESS AMONG INDIVIDUAL INVESTORS, ESPECIALLY SPECULATORS, BROKERS SAID.

Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, OCT 24, REUTER - STOCKS WERE WEAKER AT THE CLOSE ON LOWER VOLUME BECAUSE OF UNFAVOURABLE TECHNICAL FACTORS AND UNCERTAINTIES IN THE U.S. MARKET, BROKERS SAID.

THE HANG SENG INDEX FELL 19.23 POINTS TO 2,562.46 AND THE BROAD-BASED HONG KONG INDEX WAS OFF 13.11 TO 1,687.35.

TURNOVER TOTALLED 641.17 MLN N.K. DLRS AGAINST 801.00 MLN LAST FRIDAY.

TRADING WAS QUIET AS MOST INVESTORS STAYED ON THE SIDELINES. A MAJOR EXCEPTION WAS HONGKONG SHANGHAI HOTELS, WHICH ATTRACTED SPECULATIVE INTEREST BECAUSE THE COMPANY RECEIVED A BIO LAST WEEK FROM INVESTMENT FIRM CATHAY CITY.

AMMAN

OPNG	CLSG
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	1.28 1.28
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	1.93 1.92
ARAB BANK	133.0 132.0
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.73 1.73
ARAB CHEMICAL OTER	4.00 4.10
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.73 1.73
ARAB INSURANCE	1.05 1.00
ARAB INT. INV. TRAD.	0.98 0.98
ARAB INT. UNION INS.	0.90 0.99
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.58 0.58
ARAB JOR/INVT/BK	2.10 2.10
ARAB PAPER COM/IND	0.35 0.32
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.	2.15 2.14
ARAB PHARMA/CHEN	0.76 0.75
ARAB POTASH CO.	---
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65 1.65
BANK OF JORDAN	15.25 15.25
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00 0.95
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	28.00 28.75
COMFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05 1.25
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.67 0.67
DAR ALDAHA OV/INV.	1.98 1.95
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.	0.54 0.58
FINANCE/CREDIT/COF	0.56 0.57
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	3.55 3.95
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39 2.63
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.30 1.30
GENERAL MINING	1.38 1.37
HINNEH MINERALS	0.75 0.75
HOLY LAND INS.	1.27 1.25
IND. MATCH JENCO	0.72 0.75
INDUSTRIAL DEVT/BNK	1.49 1.49
INDUSTRIAL/COM/AGR.	1.27 1.26
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75 0.75
INTERCOM/INV	0.15 0.15
IRBIO ELECTRICITY	0.86 0.86
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64 0.61
ITEDM/PETRI/CH	1.40 1.43
J. TOUR-SPT/COMPLEX	0.79 0.91
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26 1.29
JO YOBABO/CIGARET	14.00 14.00
JOR CEMENT FACTORY	1.25 1.27
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.01 25.05
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.69 1.68
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.15 1.15
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	1.00 1.00
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.50 2.30
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	1.70 1.84
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20 1.20
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.58 0.57
JOR LIN BRICK	0.21 0.21
JOR MAHAG/CONSULT	0.50 0.50
JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.65 2.66
JOR PAPER CARDBOG	3.64 3.75
JOR PHOSPHATE NIMS	2.85 2.90
JOR PIPES MANUFACT.	1.36 1.32
JOR PRESS/PUBLISHER	2.00 2.15
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.00 4.00
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	0.80 0.82
JOR SECURIT CORP.	0.75 0.73
JOR SELPHO CHEM.	2.80 2.79
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	1.26 1.27
JOR WORSTED MILL	4.60 4.60
JOR KUMAIT AGR.	1.00 0.93
JOR PETROLIUM REF.	8.10 8.01
JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.30 5.30
JOR INV. FIN. CORP.	2.20 2.20
JORDAN GULF REAL	0.29 0.32
JORDAN DAIRY	1.10 1.07
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.21 1.25
JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94 0.95
JORDAN INSURANCE	13.85 13.90
JORDAN ISLAMIC BNK	1.73 1.74
JORDAN KUMAIT BANK	1.38 1.38
JORDAN TANNING	2.00 1.95
LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.68 0.70
NACRY/ENV/RENT/MAIN	0.76 0.76
NAS INDUSTRIES	0.69 0.73
NIDDEL EAST HOTEL	0.60 0.40
NIDDEL EAST INB	60.00 60.00
MINERALS RESEARCH	0.67 0.74
NAT. FIN. INVEST CO.	1.01 1.90
NAT/CABEL/WIRE/MF	1.05 1.05
NATIONAL AHLIA INS	1.26 1.25
NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.40 0.38
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	0.73 0.75
NATIONAL STEEL	2.83 2.83
ORIENT ORY BATTERY	0.25 0.28
PETRA BANK	2.15 2.15
PETRA JOR. INS.	0.35 0.35
PHILADELPHIA INS.	0.96 0.94
RAHIA INDUSTRIAL	0.75 0.75
REAL ESTATE INV.	0.42 0.42
SHIPPING LINES	0.91 0.93
SPRING MEYING	0.92 0.98
THE HOUSING BANK	1.05 1.05
UNITED INSURANCE	1.05 1.05
UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND	1.82 1.82
UNIVERSAL INS.	0.65 0.67
WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	0.68 0.68

Gulf likely to reach free trade pact with EEC by mid '89

BAHRAIN, Oct 24, (Reuters): Gulf Arab states are likely to reach a free trade agreement with the European Economic Community (EEC) by mid-1989, Bahrain's Finance and Economy Minister Ibrahim Abdel-Karim said today.

He told Reuters the six-member Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) had increased efforts to present a common policy in negotiations aimed at reducing EEC tariffs on Gulf petrochemical exports.

"Discussions are under way. I don't expect anything to take place this year but we are hopeful that sometime in the middle of next year we will be able to sign an agreement," he said.

Exports

The six Gulf states have launched a drive to increase their petrochemical exports to Europe but the EEC maintains that lifting protective restrictions — which effectively bar some products — would flood the market with cheap Gulf exports.

The GCC, an economic and political alliance formed in 1981, groups Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Abdel-Karim said a meeting of Gulf finance ministers in Riyadh on Wednesday would address the issue before a GCC summit scheduled for Bahrain in December. A report on progress towards an agreement would be submitted, he added.

Agreement

"Our first priority is the free trade agreement. It is very important because the EEC is our main trading partner," he said.

EEC exports enter GCC countries at low customs duties or in some cases, duty-free. Provisional figures for 1987 put the total value of trade between the two regions at \$26 billion, with a surplus of \$3.17 billion for the EEC.

GCC countries export a total of around five million tonnes of petrochemicals and 4.5 million tonnes of fertilisers a year, but

the figure is likely to rise sharply as most are taking steps to expand their downstream petroleum industries.

In June the Community signed a modest trade and co-operation accord with the GCC to sidestep the issue of petrochemical tariffs.

The agreement — intended as a prelude to a broader pact — committed both sides to continue to grant each other "most favoured nation" status and not to introduce any new tariffs or trade restrictions.

Abdel-Karim said as part of a free trade agreement, Gulf countries would have to lift non-revenue duties on European products.

Goods

A Gulf economist said this would only affect the higher customs duties which Gulf states place on EEC goods competing with their industries. They make up around 10 per cent of Europe's exports to the Gulf.

Abdel-Karim said the GCC summit in December would focus on the adoption of common financial, industrial and trade policies.

"We are moving from the stage where we have to remove restrictions and barriers amongst ourselves — we want to adopt common policies vis-à-vis other world groupings," he said.

Abdel-Karim also said little progress had been made on a scheme for a unified currency system among the six GCC states.

Plan

The plan would break with a traditional close link to the dollar — the currency in which Gulf countries sell oil — and create a peg to a basket of currencies reflecting the trading patterns of the six states more closely.

"GCC central bank governors are discussing the idea but there are different views on this issue. I am not sure there will be a breakthrough this year," he said.

Private savings likely to fall

Consumer tax rises set to slow down Bonn economy

BONN, Oct 24, (Reuters): West Germany's economy, Europe's highest, will slow down next year and grow by only two per cent because of plans to raise consumer taxes, five leading economic research institutes said today.

But Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government, the main industrialists' organisation and economists polled by Reuters were all more optimistic about prospects for 1989.

The government says growth could reach between 2 and 2.5 per cent because private savings are likely to fall ahead of income tax cuts planned for 1990.

This would offset the dampening effect of higher consumer taxes on a range of products from petrol to tobacco.

Rise

"In the view of the Economics Ministry, an average rise in gross national product between two and 2.5 per cent is by no means too optimistic a forecast," a government statement said.

But the institutes said in a joint report that the tax increases would weaken the economy and could lead to higher wage demands and lower corporate investment.

"In 1988 tax cuts helped the economy but rises in consumer taxes next year will create problems," Arthur Krumpal, spokesman for the institutes, told a news conference.

"We see a danger that price rises will spark demand for higher wages and put pressure on company profits and investment levels," Krumpal said on behalf of the institutes in Munich, West Berlin, Hamburg, Kiel and Essen.

The forecasts of both government and the institutes have been revised upwards from earlier estimates. Bonn earlier forecast 1989 growth of 1.5 to two per cent and the institutes a meagre 1.25 per cent.

"(The institutes' growth) forecast seems too pessimistic," said Giles Keating, European economist at Credit Suisse First Boston Ltd in London. "I would expect three per cent or more."

Keating said figures for manufacturing industry orders in recent months pointed to strong growth next year. Latest statistics show orders surged by a provisional 5.2 per cent in real terms in August from July.

The West German Industry Federation (BDI) also said the institutes' forecast was too pessimistic. "Growing demand for German products will go on having a positive effect on production and exports into next year," a BDI statement said.

Krumpal criticised the government for cutting some taxes one year and increasing others the following year, saying this had an upsetting effect on the economy.

If the consumer tax rises were scrapped, growth next year could reach 2.5 per cent, he said.

Bonn rejects the institutes' criticism, saying higher taxes were needed to finance increased federal government payments to the European Economic Community and economically weak West German states.

Wolfgang Erlebach, international economist at Bank of Liechtenstein (Frankfurt) GMBH said he expected 1989 growth to be at least two per cent.

Investment

Erlebach said that despite the consumer tax rises, he expected corporate investment to continue at high levels ahead of the 1992 European open market and a package of West German tax cuts planned for 1990.

Economists said the government's arguments in favour of the consumer tax rises had now become outdated.

CSFB's Keating said the rises seemed justified earlier this year when the budget deficit looked likely to exceed government forecasts and reach about 48 billion marks (\$27 billion).

The government has since changed its forecasts and now expects a deficit of 39 billion marks (\$22 billion) this year and 32 billion (\$18 billion) in 1989.

"Now that finances are back on the right track, the government's arguments seem unconvincing," Keating said.

Gold slips

Dollar rebounds and sterling dives

LONDON, Oct 24, (Reuters): Oil prices skidded today after OPEC talks at the weekend failed to come up with solid proposals on new organisation output curbs needed to end a worldwide glut.

West Texas Intermediate, the US benchmark crude oil, fell in New York to \$13.47 a barrel, down 90 cents from Friday. Less-priced North Sea Brent dropped just over a dollar to trade around \$12.40 in the European spot market.

"The key issues haven't been seriously discussed," said a European spot market trader commenting on the weekend talks in Madrid of eight of the 13 OPEC oil ministers.

Analysts said, however, that the prospect of further OPEC talks in November may put a floor under the petroleum market and heating oil prices do not fall much.

Crude prices remain about a dollar above 26-month lows touched on Oct 6.

Decline

But the new decline had a knock-on effect in other markets.

Gold slipped \$5.30 to \$405.15 an ounce at the London bullion market close.

Bullion loses its allure as a hedge against inflation whenever OPEC's ability to hold fuel costs up seems in doubt.

Currency dealers said the Bank of England (central bank) twice intervened in the foreign

exchange market to prop up the pound sterling, hit by weaker North Sea oil prices and worries that British trade figures on Thursday will show a big deficit.

Sterling closed at 3.1326 West German marks, down more than a pfennig on Friday although above 3.11 to which it dipped in Asia earlier today.

The ministers in Madrid did report some progress, with Iraq and Iran at least discussing a formula that might end their dispute. The committees meet again four days before a full OPEC conference in Vienna on Nov 21.

But traders said the market was not impressed by an OPEC statement that organisation output would be pegged at its current level until November. At 20 to 21 million barrels daily, this is at least one million in excess of what the market wants.

While sterling slipped, the dollar rebounded from four-month lows touched late last week to close in London at 1.7868 marks and 126.85 yen, compared with Friday's 1.7795 and 126.32.

But dealers said it might weaken again soon on the basis of speculation that the next US administration might favour a lower dollar to help correct America's big trade deficit.

World stock markets generally had a dull day with the Dow Jones Industrial Average on Wall Street down 3.73 to 2,179.77 at New York's midday.

In London shares were steady

above the day's lows in late trading as weak oil prices and nervousness ahead of Thursday's UK trade figures continued to weigh on the market.

Although shares have recovered a little from their opening fall in easier start to Wall Street and a depressed pound has kept investor interest subdued. Dealers were particularly alarmed by the sharp turnaround in sentiment over sterling and worries were again surfacing that a major slide in the currency could prompt another hike in UK interest rates.

Low

By 1553 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was 8.4 points off at 1,805.9, after hitting a low of 1,848.2.

Dealers said markets believed that if the September balance of payments deficit is above expectations, sterling will dive and another rise in UK base rates from the present 12 per cent will be on the cards.

Blue Arrow topped the active list with a turnover of 12.7 million shares by 1630 GMT, with two or three large bargains of over one million shares going through the market around mid-morning.

The shares were up 2p to 101 but analysts were perplexed by the activity. One said: "It's got so many shares in issue, 13 million or so are neither here nor there. I really can't see anyone wanting to bid for such a debt-laden company, anyway."



Tokyo money brokers call out to their colleagues in respective directions to check for updates in the trading situation in Tokyo yesterday. The dollar closed firmer, with sterling especially pressured by sales against the mark by US securities firms, dealers said. The US currency closed at 126.60 yen against 126.15/20 in New York. (Reuters wire-photo)

Ranks Hovis McDougall shares rose 8p to 392 as the market speculated that Goodman Fielder Wattie of Australia was putting pressure on possible buyers to make firm offers for its 29.9 per cent in Ranks, analysts said.

A weaker oil price — Brent crude was over \$1 off after the weekend's inconclusive OPEC meeting — left enterprise 10p easier at 579. Shell 4p lighter at 980 and BP 1p lower at 242.

Pearson shares were down 15p to 715 but dealers said this was due to speculators taking profits in the absence of any concrete bid moves. The market has speculated that Australia's News Corp. would seek to increase its 18 per cent stake in Pearson.

Lucas was 1p off at 596 but above their lows as investors reappraised this morning's news of a 28 per cent rise in full year pre-tax profits to £146.3 million, above estimates of 140 million.

We see great potential and demand for fresh fruit: Kamaluddin

Malaysia to step up trade ties with Kuwait

By Fathima Ahmed

MALAYSIA expects business prospects to improve in the Gulf due to the end of hostilities between Iran and Iraq, according to Asmat Kamaluddin, deputy secretary of trade at Malaysia's Ministry of Commerce.

Kamaluddin, who is in Kuwait to promote the Malaysia Fair, told reporters yesterday that his country is "optimistic about trade prospects improving in Kuwait and the Gulf."

"The trade atmosphere will and should get better with peace," he said.

Exports

Malaysian imports to the Gulf are negligible. Japan is Malaysia's biggest trading partner, importing nearly 25 per cent of its total exports from that country. Other trading partners include Singapore (about 20.6 per cent in 1984) and the US (13.3 per cent in 1984).

Nearly 35.5 per cent of Malaysians are employed in the agricultural sector, with 15.7 per cent working in the manufacturing sector. Agricultural products



Malaysian Counsellor Ahmed Mokhtar Selat (left) with deputy secretary for trade, Asmat Kamaluddin pictured at yesterday's press conference.

like rubber, palm oil, timber, cocoa, rice, pepper, crude oil and processed food products form the bulk of Malaysia's exports. The country relaxed investment rules in 1986. Last month, the government of Malaysia set up Mida, a co-ordination centre to provide a one-stop centre for investment.

Investors from Taiwan and Japan have shown a keen interest in Malaysia. Due to the availability of manpower and other resources, some Japanese companies are manufacturing

components and assembling electronic products in Malaysia, Kamaluddin said.

However, the response from Gulf investors has been poor. "There has not been as much interest as we would like to see from Gulf investors," said Kamaluddin.

Asian investors are taking advantage of the free market coupled with recent provisions easing investment in key industrial sectors. Tax incentives are also lucrative.

Malaysians, driven by a spirit

of Islamic brotherhood, are now turning their attention to the Gulf, particularly to Kuwait, he said.

"We see great potential and demand for fresh fruit. We would like to expand trade ties between our two countries," said Kamaluddin.

The emphasis at the three-day trade fair will be on promoting exotic fruits like papaya (two different varieties), and star fruit. The perishables would be airlifted by 40 Malaysia companies. It may not prove to be cost effective, due to the absence of direct flights between Malaysia and Kuwait, the Commerce Ministry hopes to make them "cost effective" for consumption in Kuwait.

Products

"There is a demand for up-market products in Kuwait. We hope to meet the rush by supplying quality fresh, exotic fruit," said Kamaluddin.

Nearly 40 Malaysian companies are displaying their products at the fair, which opens today. Apart from fresh fruit, processed and canned foods, rubber and palm oil, electronic products, computers and furniture will be on display.

The trade fair will be open today, tomorrow and on Thursday from 9 am to 1 pm and from 4 to 8 pm at a local hotel.

Talks under way to lay down plan to revive stock market

KUWAIT, Oct 24, (KUNA): A leading Kuwaiti newspaper today said talks are under way to lay down a comprehensive plan to revive the stock exchange market and restore confidence on shares dealings.

Quoting what it described as well-informed sources, a local daily reported that consultations centred on how to begin since several options have surfaced.

The newspaper said some options tend to favour the sifting of companies to rectify the process of weak ones or liquify them after feasibility studies to determine their continuity.

Shares

The second proposal, the newspaper went on to say, calls for purchasing enlisted companies' shares or applying a sale on credit system and to allow expatriates to deal in stocks within certain limits. The sale on credit system provides for purchasing stocks with the payment to be made in due course.

The paper quoted its sources as saying that the issue still needs more time due to the lack of data regarding the companies enlisted at the house and the difficulty in determining stock prices in the absence of information.

Canadian firm to sign contract with Ankara metro

ANKARA, Oct 24, (Reuters): A Canadian firm said today it hoped to initial a \$500 million contract with Ankara Municipality next month to build the first stage of a city metro system.

"We have substantially completed the documentation and there are no major problems. We hope to have contract initialing next month," Dick Giles, lead negotiator for the Urban Transport Development Corporation (UTDC), told Reuters.

Ankara city officials said on Oct 17 that construction could start in November. UTDC, in partnership with Turkey's Gama Endustri and Guris Insaat, was awarded a contract in July for the first 14-km (nine-mile) section of the 54-km (34-mile) project.

Project

The five-stage project aims at easing travel problems on crowded roads and reducing pollution, much of it from exhausts, trapped in the city's surrounding hills.

The project, which Giles said would cost \$2 billion at current prices, would be constructed under

the build-operate-transfer (BOT) system devised by Prime Minister Turgut Ozal.

Giles said UTDC, which has a 60 per cent stake, and a joint Gama-Guris venture, with 40 per cent, would establish a BOT company to sign a formal contract after initialing.

The municipality is likely to take a 30 per cent stake in the \$30 million equity of the project company that will run the first stage for 15 years after the 1992 completion date.

A main principle of the contract is that the consortium will arrange financing.

"The Canadian government made an offer for export credit financing through the export development corporation of about \$240 million," he said.

The first stage involves constructing 12 stations and a depot between the main Ankara business area of Kizilay and Batikent, a middle-income residential area, to the West.

The system will have the capacity to move 45,000 passengers an hour in the vicinity of just over three million people.

Exxon and ARCO earnings boosted

NEW YORK, Oct 24, (Reuters): Better profit margins from refining and strong chemical-division earnings pushed third-quarter profits at Exxon Corp. up 15 per cent and at Atlantic Richfield Co. up 24 per cent, despite a fall in oil prices during the quarter.

New York-based Exxon Corp., the world's biggest oil company, said today its earnings in the third quarter rose to \$1.22 billion from 1.06 billion in the 1987 quarter. But revenues were a little lower, falling to \$21.93 billion from 21.93 billion.

Exxon said improved petroleum product margins for products such as petrol and continued strength in chemicals were the principal factors in the gain.

Oil prices have been sliding all year, but took a big fall near the end of summer when heavy OPEC output flooded markets. A special weekend meeting in Madrid of two powerful OPEC committees concluded without a solution to rein in production and the failure pushed world oil prices down sharply today.

For the nine-month period, Exxon earned \$3.88 billion against 3.28 billion in the year-earlier period.

ARCO said its average price for domestic crude oil declined to \$9.62 per barrel in the third quarter from \$14 a year ago.

For the nine months, ARCO's earnings rose to \$1.19 billion while revenues rose to \$13.78 billion from 12.36 billion.

Iraqi Airways seeks to buy new Airbus

BAGHDAD, Oct 24, (Reuters): Iraqi Airways began negotiations today with the makers of the European Airbus about buying two planes, airline director-general Noriuddin Asaifi said.

He said the airline was considering buying one A-310 and one A-320.

Asaifi also said a delegation from Boeing was expected in Baghdad soon to finalise an agreement to buy the company's 767 aircraft but did not say how many might be purchased.

Kraft rejects Philip Morris bid

GLENVIEW, Illinois, Oct 24, (AP): Kraft Inc. directors have rejected as "inadequate" an \$11-billion takeover bid by Philip Morris Cos Inc. and announced a recapitalisation plan that Kraft believes will have a "significantly" higher value for shareholders.

John M. Richman, chairman and chief executive of Kraft, said in a letter to shareholders that the plan should boost the total value of the company's stock to \$110 per share, with a distribution in cash and securities of about \$98 and retention of common stock interest.

Value

He said the market would probably adjust to reflect the new value of the stock after the distribution.

The announcement came on Sunday. The Philip Morris tender offer amounted to \$90 per share. "We should take action to maximise shareholder value rather than accept an inadequate offer,"

Richman said in the letter. "We strongly believe the \$90 takeover bid ... undervalues Kraft."

If the bid had been accepted, New York-based Philip Morris would have gained control of a company that has a 25 per cent stake of the US market for natural cheese and 60 per cent of the processed cheese market.

Philip Morris chairman Hamish Maxwell said late last week that his firm had 64 banks lined up to finance the \$11-billion deal.

Philip Morris spokesman Tom Ricke, reached by telephone late yesterday in New York, said he could not immediately comment on the move by Kraft.

Plan

Richman said Kraft's detailed plan would be presented to the board of directors soon, and then be submitted to stockholders at a special meeting.

He said the plan would involve selling some Kraft businesses, but that core brands representing

about 80 per cent of the company's profits would be kept.

The plan also involves bank borrowings of more than \$6.8 billion and the public sale of some \$3 billion of debt. Kraft has already begun some of the sales, and Goldman, Sachs and Company has said it is confident it can place the debt, Kraft said.

Richman said that Kraft stock had been trading above the \$90 offer, "a clear signal that investors see the bid as low."

Ownership

He also said the plan would involve an employee stock ownership plan.

While Richman said the company would proceed with the recapitalisation plan, he left open the possibility that the board could accept another bid.

"If someone comes forward with a transaction that would be more desirable than the restructuring plan, we will negotiate and your board will give full consideration to such a transaction," Richman said.

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Dear Junior Readers,

A very annoying habit some people have is borrowing things and not returning them. They ask you to lend them something for 'five minutes' and then hang on to whatever it is until you find the courage to shyly ask if you could possibly have it back. Even then, you might have to wait at least another six months or else you are told that somehow, the object in question has just disappeared! Worse than that is when some people just help themselves to what they want without even bothering to ask first. It might be returned at some later time or the person might actually tell you that he or she took it when you were not around to ask. It is not that the person meant to steal the thing, but if they forget all about it, the result is the same—you do not know where it has gone and you will probably never see it again.

Do try not to be one of those unthinking people and always ask before you take something belonging to someone else, even if you honestly only plan to use it for a short time. Make sure too, that you look after what you borrow and return it as soon as possible, which will mean there is less chance of it getting lost.

Auntie Jayne

General knowledge quiz

1. What is the name we give to the beginning of a river?
2. In Britain what is a 'Cockney'?
3. Who would you expect to see with Tweedledee?
4. If you travelled from Liverpool to Dublin, what sea would you have to cross?
5. Quills were once used as pens. From what bird were they usually taken?
6. What is the fairy-tale statue that travellers see as they enter Copenhagen harbour?
7. In which city is Wenceslaus Square?
8. If you broke a metacarpal bone, what part of your body would need treatment?
9. In pantomime, if you were Harlequin what would your partner's name be?
10. 'Little Lamb, who made thee' and 'Tiger! Tiger! burning bright' are lines from two well-known poems. Who was the poet?
11. How many sisters in Chekhov's play?
12. What do we call the order of mammals that have hands and nails instead of claws?
13. Where is the famous 'La Scala' opera house?
14. Thor Heyerdahl made the voyage from Peru to Tahiti in a balsa raft. What was its name?
15. The term 'stainless steel' refers to a class of steel alloys which contain a high percentage of which metal?
16. On what river are the Victoria Falls?
17. How many horsemen constitute a Polo team?
18. Where are the 'islets of Langerhans'?

Solution on Thursday

By Alison Uttley

The Grandfather-clock and the Cuckoo-clock

ONE day the Grandfather rubbed his eyes, yawned and climbed out of the grandfather-clock in the hall, where he had lived for two hundred years. The clock stopped ticking, the weights ran down, and there was silence.

He tripped lightly across the hall, drawing his old cloak around his shoulders, and pressing his tall hat on his head, he tapped at the tiny door in the carved wooden cuckoo-clock, hanging on the wall. The painted Cuckoo looked out, and then fluttered down to join him.

They slipped through the open window, and walked across the garden where the magnonette and poppies were blooming. Old Grandfather picked a sprig of lad's-love, which he stuck in his hat, and the Cuckoo flew up to his shoulder.

What a picture they made as they stood under the apple trees, sniffing at the sweet scents, listening to the birds, drinking the fragrant air! But no one saw them there.

"Let's go down the lane," said the Grandfather, "and see how the haymakers are getting on. I can smell the hay, and it's a hundred years since I was out."

So down the lane they went, light as thistle-down, making no sound except their laughter.

In the meadows were babies tumbling over in the hay, and the haymakers tossed and raked the grass. A hay-cart, drawn by a great mare, came lumbering through the gate, laden with a heavy load.

Grandfather climbed up on the gate, and sat there swinging his legs, watching

the men at work. But the little Cuckoo flew to a tree, and cuckooed twelve times.

"On no!" cried Grandfather. "Is it as late as that!" and he struck twelve with his deep ringing voice.

The haymakers put down their forks and rakes, and walked off to the hedge where their dinners lay in brown baskets under the dock leaves. The mare was set free from her load, and she whinnied her thanks to the strange pair.

Down jumped Grandfather and the Cuckoo, and they walked across the fields to the village school. They peeped through the open windows at the hot little children, sucking their pencils, frowning, wriggling, shuffling, as they struggled with their lessons.

"They ought to be out in the hay-field," whispered the Grandfather to the Cuckoo.

So the Cuckoo called twelve times, and the Grandfather struck. All the children shut their books, and prepared to go home.

"My clock must be very slow!" murmured the teacher to herself. "I had no idea it was so late."

The scampering crowd ran past the old Grandfather with never a glance. They were looking for the Cuckoo, but he was so small, they never noticed his little coloured wings beating on a larkspur by the window.

Grandfather patted a fair little boy on the head, but he only shook his hair

as if a wind had ruffled it, and ran after the others.

After them ran the Grandfather and the Cuckoo, but soon they left the children behind, hunting in the hedges, paddling in the streams, and away they went, through the village.

Leaning against a wall stood the policeman, and Grandfather stared at his fine helmet and bright buttons. But before he could speak the Cuckoo struck twelve again. Of course the Grandfather had to strike too, and his chimes rang through the village.

"Twelve o'clock!" exclaimed the policeman. "I must get along to my dinner. Suet dumplings today," and he hurried off home.

I'm thirsty with all this striking," cried the Cuckoo. "Shall we go down to the river to drink?" "Yes," replied the Grandfather. "I want to see the old river again. I used to live by its side when I was a boy, and dream, and dream."

They walked through the uncut meadow grass, thick with dog-daisies and blue crane's bill, to the great river. Grandfather's tight trousers were yellow with pollen, and the Cuckoo's wings were dipped in gold dust where he had fluttered among the flowers.

Then Grandfather sat down by the water's edge and cooled his toes, and the Cuckoo flew over the surface, pretending to catch flies like the swallows.

The water-rats came

swimming up to talk to them, and a family of white ducks paddled down a side stream from the farm to ask the news. Brown rabbits ran from their burrows and hopped on Grandfather's knees, and little water wagtails flirted their tails as they walked sedately up to pass the time of day.

A pair of dippers left their young ones to look at the odd couple on the bank, and a gay kingfisher darted across the river to Grandfather's feet.

"How is Time on the river, nowadays?" asked the Grandfather.

"It's much faster than when you lived here," said the water-rat. "We have to move so quickly, and work so hard, it is night soon after it is morning."

"But it's more exciting," said the ducks. "You should see us cross the road and hold up the traffic!"

"Tell us of long ago time," said the rabbits, and they crowded round him, as he sat among the purple loose-strife and creamy meadow-sweet by the river brink.

So he talked and talked, and the day slipped by. Presently a cool wind blew, and the sun dipped down towards the horizon. The duck's feathers were ruffled, and the water-rat turned up his collar.

"It's getting late," said the Cuckoo, and he struck twelve. Grandfather chimed with his deep rich voice twelve times, too.

"Twelve o'clock?" cried the rabbits. "What a joke! But the weasels will get us if



we don't go home," and they scurried off to their burrows.

The dippers flew off to their lonely, wailing babies, and the kingfisher and wagtails hastened to their nests. Only the water-rats remained.

"The sun hasn't gone yet, I can see it winking at us. Your time must be wrong, Grandfather," they said.

"Yes, we have been wrong all day," answered the old Grandfather, as he reluctantly drew his toes out of the water.

"But it's been a holiday," said the little Cuckoo. "We left Time behind."

Grandfather stooped to the meadow grass and picked a great dandelion clock, round and pearl-coloured. He blew and blew, and the water-rats and the Cuckoo watched him.

"Eight o'clock," said he. "It's time the children were in bed."

So he said good-bye to the water-rats, who sat on the bank watching him. With the Cuckoo on his shoulder, he ran through the bending grass, along the lanes, by the village, to the house which anxiously waited their return.

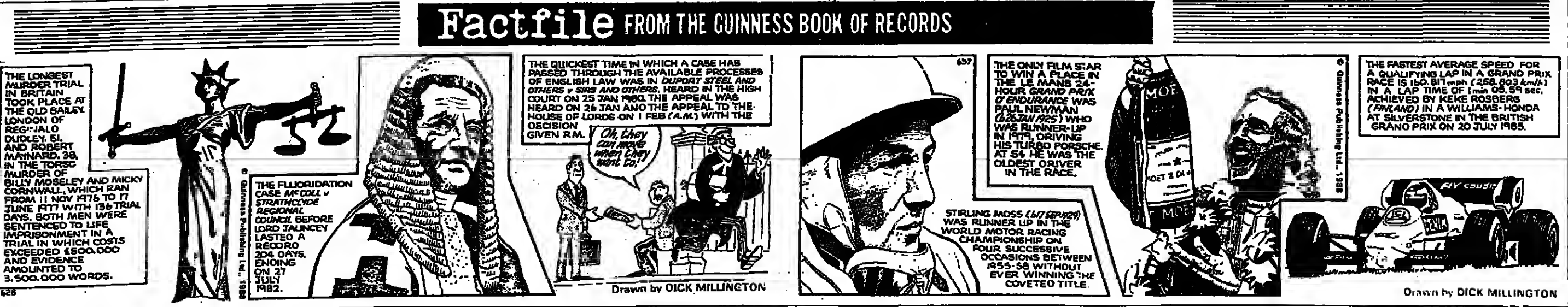
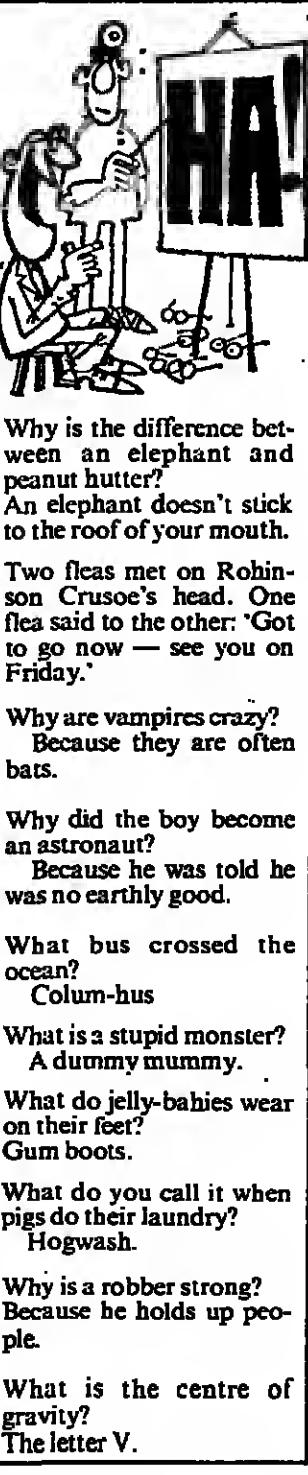
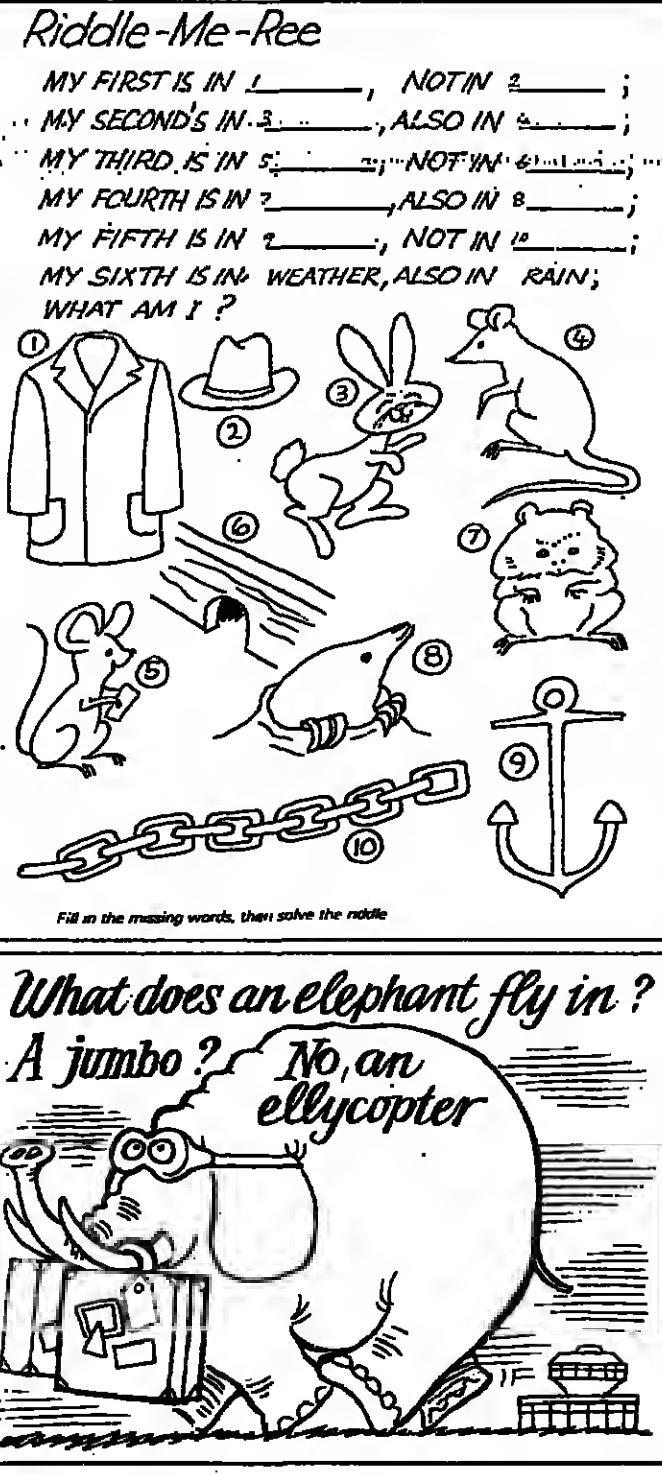
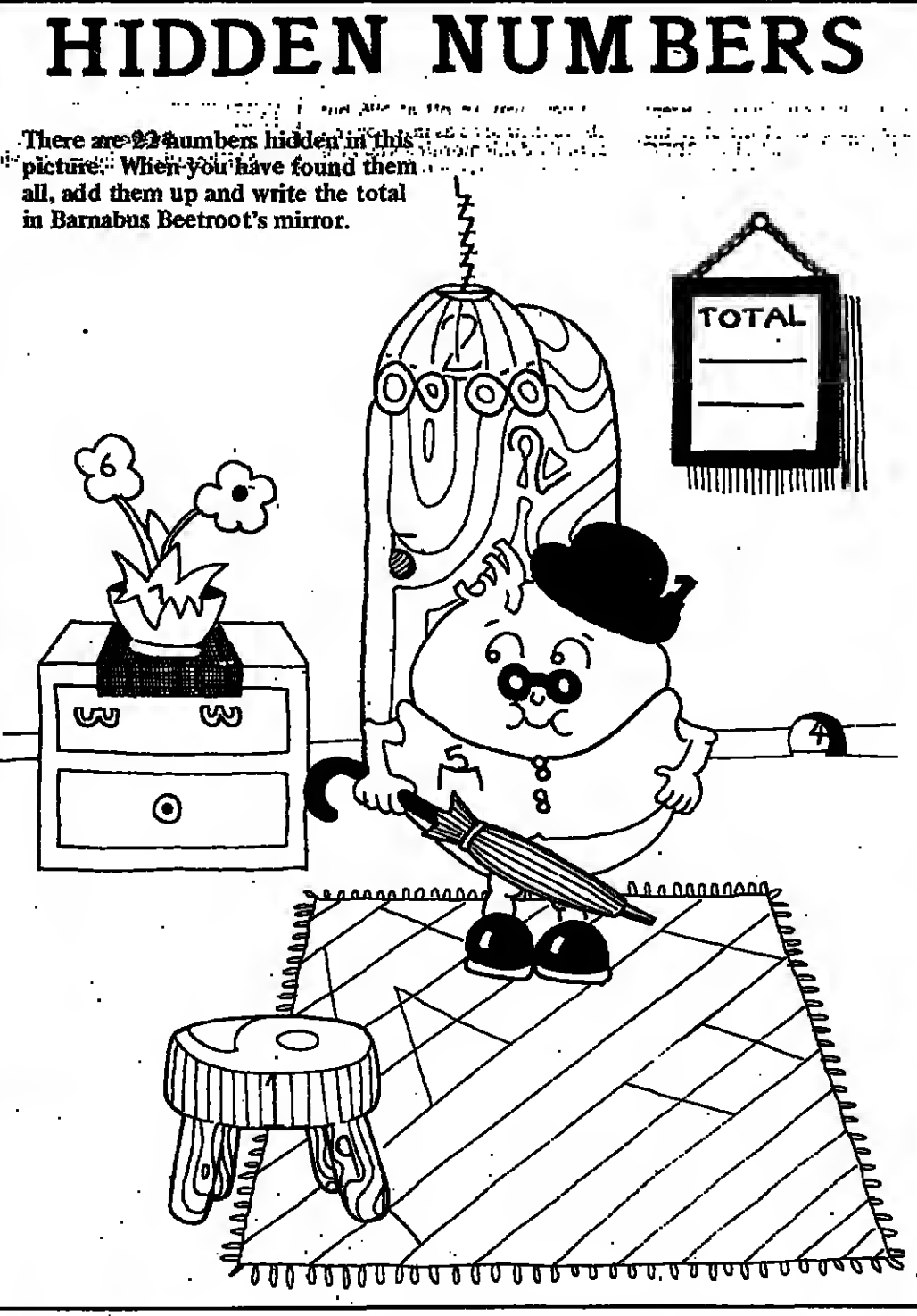
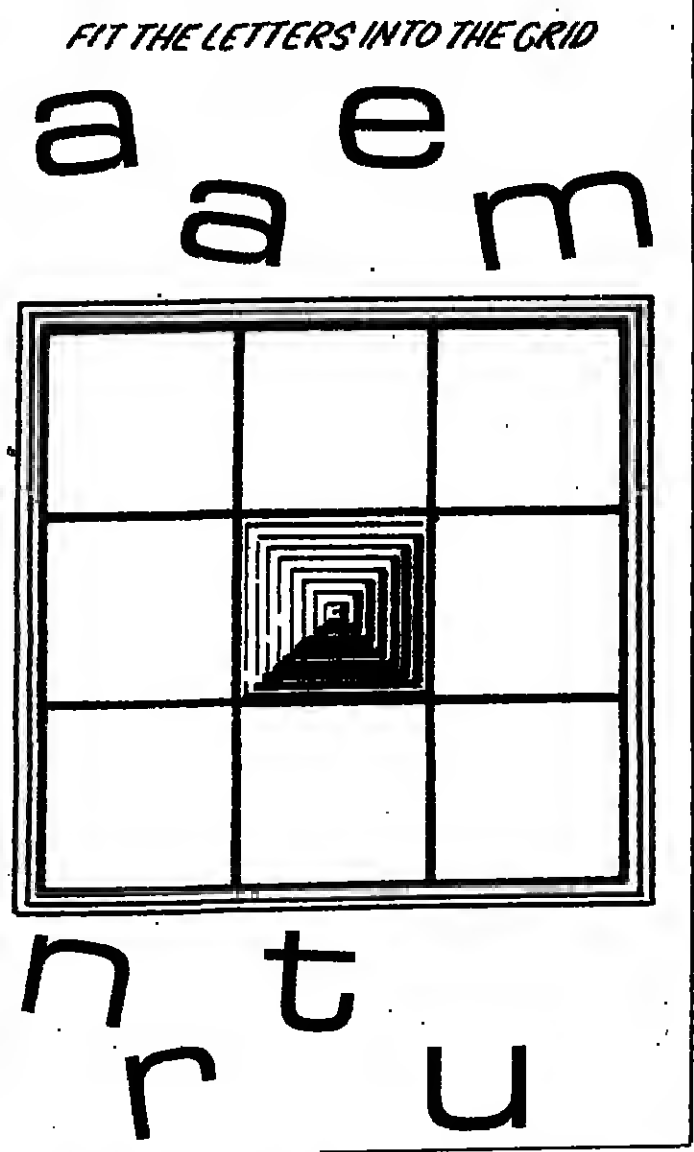
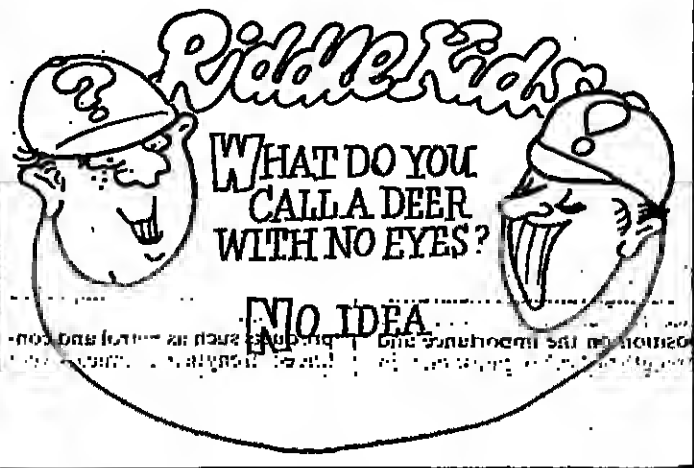
They climbed into their empty cases, and closed the doors. As soon as they were safely inside they both struck.

"One. Two. Three. Four. Five. Six. Seven. Eight."

"Hello! The clocks are going again. They've stopped all day, and I couldn't make them go," cried a voice.

"Time for bed, children."

And, as the children went upstairs, the clocks sighed, and settled down to their quiet life again.



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مكتبة إلهي

MCCOIST SCORES TWO FOR RANGERS

Atletico flourish under Atkinson



Ranger's Richard Gough (top) wins the ball from Aberdeen. (Reuters wirephoto)

MADRID, Oct. 24, (Reuters): Atletico Madrid continued to flourish under the guidance of their new coach Ron Atkinson yesterday beating Elche 3-1 to pursue their path up the Spanish First Division.

Atletico, who spent the early weeks of the season floundering at the bottom of the division before the arrival of Englishman Atkinson 10 days ago, advanced three places to sixth.

But Atkinson's compatriot Howard Kendall saw his Athletic Bilbao side, the former League leaders, lose their third game in a row, beaten 1-0 by Osasuna, and slip to eighth place. Atletico, who beat Espanol 6-1 last weekend, put on another show of attacking play for Atkinson in the first half against Elche, scoring twice from free kicks.

Sneaked
Portugal's Paulo Fente slotted home the first goal after 17 minutes with a shot from 25 metres and Brazilian Baltazar de Moraes, the League's top scorer, sneaked a second free kick past the post in the 29th.

Luis Saavedra pulled nine goal back for Elche one minute into the second half but in the 89th minute Atletico's Manolo Sanchez sealed the result with a powerful, close-range goal.

Bilbao, with six players out through injury, put on a lacklustre performance against Osasuna which augured badly for their European Football Union (UEFA) Cup second round tie with Juventus in Turin on Wednesday.

Briton Michael Robinson scored the winner for the Pamplona side in the 73rd minute.

In Lisbon, Benfica and Porto disappointed a sell-out 120,000 Lisbon crowd yesterday with a dull, goalless draw in Portugal's First Division soccer match of the day.

The result and third-placed Sporting's 0-0 draw at Penafiel left the top of the table unchanged with Benfica still one point clear after 10 games.

Fernando Chalana almost scored for Benfica in the seventh minute when his low angled shot slammed into one post, rolled along the line and hit the nether before bouncing clear.

Porto goalkeeper Ze Beto was seldom troubled again and the visitors in fact came closest two minutes before the interval when a 30-metre free-kick from Brazilian defender Geraldan scraped over the bar.

But Porto were content mainly to crowd the midfield, standard away match tactics that are likely to be repeated on Wednesday when they face holders PSV Eindhoven in a European Cup first leg tie.

In Glasgow, Scotland, striker Ally McCoist broke a stalemate with an 88th minute goal to give Glasgow Rangers the Scottish League Cup for the third year running yesterday in a 3-2 win over Aberdeen.

The match, deadlocked at 2-2, had looked set to go into extra time — like last year's final between the same two clubs which

was eventually decided on penalties — when Aberdeen's Jim Bett missed an open goal five minutes before the final whistle at Hampden Park.

But with two minutes left McCoist, who had scored the opening goal from a penalty in the 14th minute, hooked in the winner from eight metres.

McCoist's penalty shot resulted from Aberdeen's Dutch goalkeeper Theo Snelders pulling down Kevin Drinkell just inside the area.

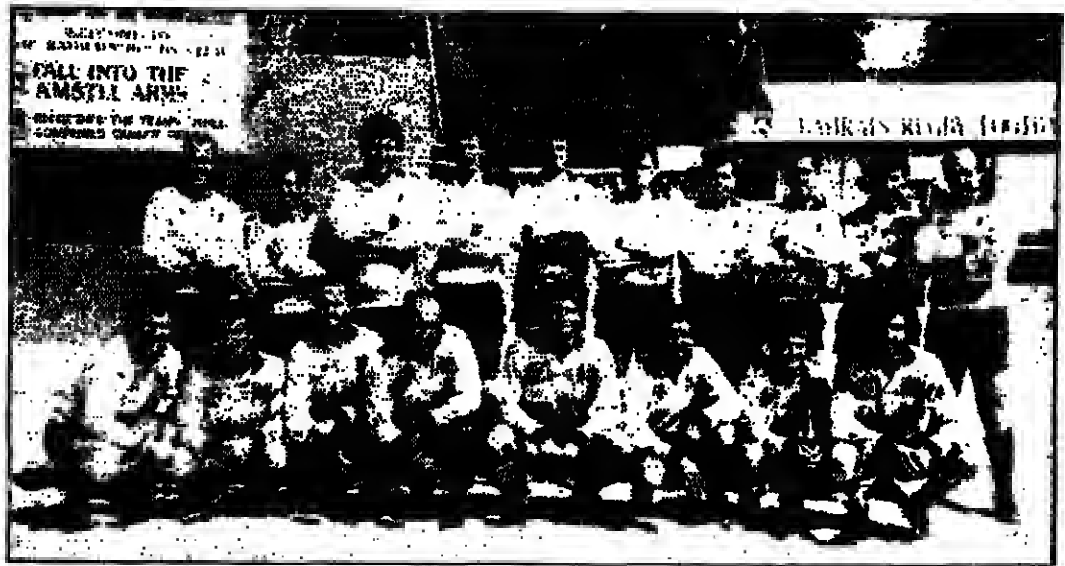
Aberdeen's goals both came from the head of David Dods. He equalised in the 21st minute and levelled the score again seven minutes after Ian Ferguson had put Rangers in the lead for the second time in the 55th minute.

England reserve goalkeeper Chris Woods was left helpless as Dods' second header, from a cross by Charlie Nicholas, sailed past him into the net.

Failed
And in Amsterdam, four goals from Wim Balm helped FC Twente in a bruising 7-1 win over RKC yesterday but failed to dislodge European Cup holders PSV Eindhoven from the top of the Dutch Soccer League.

The League champions remained two points clear following their 2-0 win against Rotterdam's Sparta in a disappointingly lacklustre performance.

Struggling Ajax Amsterdam again demonstrated their steady improvement in form with a comfortable 3-0 win over FC Groningen to leap from ninth to fifth place.



The Nomads squad before the match against Bahrain.

Nomads retain rugby crown

KUWAIT Nomads confirmed their status as the top club in the Gulf by retaining the Middle East XV-a-side rugby tournament in Bahrain never the weekend.

The Nomads went through the tournament not only unbeaten but without conceding a single try. The Nomads clinched victory by 3 points to nil in the final against Muscat through a lone Adams penalty.

Injured
In a tough, bone crunching forward battle, the Nomads pack did well to counter the heavier Muscat forwards. The work of Evans in the line-out, and Quinn and the injured Winfield in the scrum was tremendous.

However, the real difference was in the superior fitness of the Kuwait forwards which repeatedly saw the Muscat forwards driven back at rucks and mauls. The back-row of Hill, Sole and Robinson were outstanding and are without doubt the best unit in the Gulf.

In the backs Richard Ellis, a stand-in full back for the injured

Shipley, played the game of his life. His security under the high ball and his aggressive counter attacks caused numerous problems for Muscat. The tackling of Gatland and Hutchinson was impressive throughout the tournament, whilst Bulles and debutant Harvey always looked dangerous on the wings.

It was perhaps inevitable that victory should come from the boot of Adams, as he proved to be the tournament's top scorer. A rigorous diet and training programme has resulted in a slimmer, faster player, highlighted by his magnificent charging down and try score in the 4-3 semifinal win over Bahrain.

With two tries in the tournament Adams exploded the myth of being a non-running fly-half. The excellent service of Hall gave Adams the time and space to weave his magic, and his trusty left peg did the rest.

Earlier in the tournament Kuwait had qualified for the quarterfinals by beating Jubail 8-0 and Abu Dhabi 27-0. The quarterfinal saw a 11-0 victory

over Sbarjab which left the semifinal game against the hosts Bahrain. With the crowds on the edge of their seats it was left to Adams to become hero of the hour.

The fatigue of 5 games in 2 days was soon forgotten as Hill climbed the steps to receive the trophy. The joy was further increased when Tony Sole was named "Player of the Tournament," thoroughly deserved after his unselfish, courageous performances.

Ground
The tournament victory was a real squad effort, especially after Shipley (hamstring) and "Whitney" Houston (broken hand) were injured on the first day.

The Nomads still have no ground on which to train, but the team spirit and desire to win found in match. There is little time to bask in their success as Doha come in Kuwait for a Gulf Knockout Quarterfinal in less than two weeks. The Nomads will be aiming to retain the second of the three trophies won last year.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Rothmans Trophy

YMCA face Unity in the second round of the Rothmans Royals Trophy at the New Ground on Friday morning (umpires from Kokan). At the same time, Siddiqui meet Starlite at the Oval (umpires from Bright Stars). In the afternoon games, Falcon face Capri at the New Ground and KIFCO take on Union at the Oval with Al Mulla umpiring the first match and Morning Star the second.

Title fights

LONDON, Oct. 24, (Reuters): Briton Lloyd Honeyghan and former champion of Colombia will defend their world boxing titles in a welterweight double-bill in Las Vegas on January 28. British promoter Mickey Duff said today. Duff said Honeyghan would defend his World Boxing Council (WBC) title against American Marlon Starling and Mainline's his World Boxing Association (WBA) crown against another American former champion Mark Breland, at Caesar's Palace.

Boxer killed

PEKING, Oct. 24, (Reuters): China launched an investigation today into what was believed to be the country's first boxing fatality since fight deaths in the 1950s led to a 27-year ban on the sport. Policeman Li Xiaoling, a 19-year-old amateur with only four months' boxing experience, died from head injuries after being knocked unconscious in the second round of a local championship fight.

Car accident

BILBAO, Spain, Oct. 24, (UPI): A race car ploughed into a crowd of spectators yesterday at the end of a hillclimb, killing a man and his two children, authorities said. The accident occurred near the northern city of Bilbao when the car began to swerve as it approached the finish line. The driver lost control and smashed into the spectators.

Kuwait golf

THE 23rd Kuwait Open Golf Championship will be held at the Ahmad Al Jaber course on Nov 10-11. The tournament will be opened by Sheikh Jaber Abdullah Al Jaber at 8 am on the first day.

Welsh striker

LONDON, Oct. 24, (Reuters): Welsh international striker Dean Saunders signed for English First Division club Derby in a £1 million (\$1.76 million) deal with Second Division Oxford yesterday.

Sloane wins

NASHVILLE, Tennessee, Oct. 24, (AP): Susan Sloane of the United States picked up the first victory of her professional career yesterday in the \$100,000 Virginia Slims of Nashville when she posted a 6-3 6-2 victory over fellow compatriot Beverly Lowes.

RESULTS of the Hubara Bridge
Tab game held on Saturday:

Sayemah & S. Ghannim
Dr. Parikh & Sapre
Gajjar & Anwar
E/W
Mrs Pereira & Mrs D'Souza
Kaddoura & Rasm
Dhaura & Jaggi

Richards warns Aussies before series

PERTH, Australia, Oct. 24, (Reuters): West Indies cricket captain Viv Richards today warned Australia they would have a rough ride against his pace attack in the forthcoming five-Test series.

The 16-member West Indies squad arrived in Western Australia after a flight from the Middle East where they won the Sbarjab one-day tournament at the weekend.

Helped
Richards told reporters that success had been a great confidence booster ahead of the three-match Australian tour. "The matches there helped me to get into shape after a spell at home following our tour of England."

"I'll most certainly expect Australia to be tougher opponents than England," Richards said. West Indies beat England 4-0 in the five-Test series.

West Indies won their last tour of Australia 3-1 in 1984/5 thanks

to devastating fast bowling from Joel Garner and Michael Holding.

Richards promised more of the same on this tour from Malcolm Marshall, Courtney Walsh and Curtley Ambrose.

"We certainly hope to give Australian cricket fans what they expect from the West Indies. I'm quite certain you'll see some good bowling from them. I'm not making any predictions but I'm sure you'll be able to make your own impressions and discover that they're reasonably good," he said with a smile.

Richards said his side would bowl 90 overs a day in the Test matches, as had been agreed between the two sides. "We're here to play cricket and we'll abide by the rules."

The 36-year-old captain, who did not play in Sharjah because of an ankle injury, said he might miss the first two matches of the tour against Western Australia but would be fit for the Test matches.

to devastating fast bowling from Joel Garner and Michael Holding.

"I hope the old dog has still got a bit of life left," he said. The touring side's preparation for the day/night game on Wednesday and the four-day game starting on Friday will be disrupted because their luggage has been left in Hong Kong.

Former Australian captain Kim Hughes will miss the two games after being overlooked by Western Australia.

Australian pace bowler Bruce Reid will also be absent after an operation on his injured back at the weekend. Reid hopes to be fit for the first Test starting in Brisbane on Nov 18.

Richards said he had no complaint about the tour itinerary, even though a series of one-day internationals against Australia and Pakistan has been scheduled in the middle of the Test series.

Richards said he felt his team had an excellent blend of youth and experience, and that it was a well balanced combination.



Viv Richards

Cram and Coe to race striking clock

CAMBRIDGE, England, Oct. 24, (Reuters): Seb Coe and Steve Cram chase a place in Cambridge University history on Saturday when they race a clock's chimes around a cobbled courtyard in a stunt made famous by the Oscar-winning film "Chariots of Fire."

The British pair will set out to master three right-angled turns and tricky conditions underfoot in a bid to become only the second and third men to complete a circuit of Trinity College's great court before the final strike of the midday clock.

Version
The traditional event, and its accompanying champagne celebration, was highlighted by "Chariots of Fire," the British-made film of the 1924 Paris Olympics.

But the celluloid version, which had sprinter Harold Abrahams achieving the feat, was not true to life.

Olympic 100 metres champion



Steve Cram

Abrahams never attempted the great court run. The only man to have beaten the striking clock was Lord Burghley, the 1928 Olympic 400 metres hurdles champion, who achieved it run-

ning solo during his last term at Cambridge in 1927.

Burghley recounted his memory of the day shortly before his death in 1981. "I did it for the fun of it," he said. "The clock had just been mended so it was running faster than usual. But I managed it with a beat and a half to spare."

Former world champion Cram and double Olympic champion Coe will find the task demanding. The distance around the square is 367 metres and the clock takes around 46 seconds to complete its chiming sequence.

Standstill
The pair, who rarely run under 800 metres, will come to a virtual standstill rounding the turns and run the risk of getting in each other's way.

All proceeds generated by the televised event, due to be started at the first chime by Britain's Prince Edward, will go to a London children's hospital.

Two Czechs killed on Mount Tilicho

KATMANDU, Nepal, Oct. 24, (AP): Two Czech climbers fell to their death on Mount Tilicho and four members of another Czech expedition have been missing on Mount Everest for a week, the tourism minister reported today.

The ministry said Leous Hnaka and Petr Gribek, both 45 and from Ostrava, reached the top of the 7,134-metre Tilicho last Tuesday. They spent the night on the summit and began descending the next morning, but slipped in an area about 600 metres below the peak and fell to their deaths.

It said one another member of the team, Palecek Ludik, 32, also from Ostrava, left the expedition's base camp at 4,600 metres the following day and reached the summit of Tilicho on Friday morning.

On the way down, Ludvik spotted the bodies of the other two Czechs.

Sunshine Forever triumphs

LAUREL, MD., Oct. 24, (Reuters): American colt Sunshine Forever surged ahead at the finish to edge out a pair of French entries and capture the 37th D.C. international horse race at Laurel race course yesterday.

With about 200 yards left in the 1-1/4-mile turf classic, France's Squill ridden by Guy Gignard took the lead from Sunshine Forever and appeared to have the race won.

But as the leaders approached the finish line, favoured Sunshine Forever with veteran jockey Angel Cordero aboard

and another French entry, Frankly Perfect ridden by Briton Walter Swinburn, passed Squill along the rail.

Sunshine Forever edged Frankly Perfect by a nose to earn the \$450,000 winner's prize for owners Darby Dan Farm of Ohio. Squill mounted a thrilling challenge but finished half a length back and had to settle for third place.

"He's a courageous horse," said winning trainer John Veitch. "The Europeans' strong suit is the finish, and I thought they had it."

Bakhit aims to win Kuwait powerboat race

By Gail Seery

"I AM coming to Kuwait to win," says Khaled Bakhit, winner of June's Kuwait Offshore Powerboat Race. He is expected to leave Dubai today, and tow his 24ft Tigercat in Kuwait for the third Bi-annual Offshore Powerboat Race, being held on Friday in conjunction with the Messilah Beach Hotel's Henley-on-Thames Regatta day.

"However, the competition will be stronger than last time," he continued, adding that before the last race he had predicted that if a Dubai won, all the Kuwaiti racers would work hard to ensure that this did not happen again. "It will be harder for me to win this time, but I will finish in the top three."

Bakhit will be accompanied by his 18-year-old brother Homid, who throttled for him in the June event. He is studying at business school, but will be taking a break to help his brother in the Kuwait race. "He's very good," said Khaled Bakhit. "I think that in a minnubul boat he is probably better than me."

"How well we do depends on



Bakhit (left) trailing Mishaal Al Jarallah during June's race.

the sea conditions. My boat performs well in 2 to 4 ft waves, not more. If there is rough sea we will not do well — my boat is too light. If the sea is not rough I have a good chance to win.

"Salem Juma will be the stron-

gest competitor in the case of bad weather. He has a very strong boat, which can move fast in rough sea," Mohammed Salem Juma will drive the huge Emirates boat, which led for much of the June race, but which

finally gave up the challenge a little way from turning point 3. "We Dubians are looking to win, and we will be happy as long as the first prize goes to Dubai. We are coming to take first and second places for Dubai," Bakhit said.

hit said.

"The strongest Kuwait competitor will certainly be Hassan Al Sayafa and Mishaal Al Jarallah," he added.

Bakhit stressed how important the co-driver is in any boat: "No matter how good the driver is, if the co-driver is afraid that boat won't win."

Bakhit reckons that in rough seas the 27ft Cougar, driven by Mishaal Al Jarallah is likely to do better than the 24ft Tigercats, because it is heavier and will be more stable in high waves.

Strong
"If I win this time I will be delighted — even happier than I was to win last time. There will be more competitors this time, with some very strong boats indeed, whereas last time there were only three or four strong boats."

"With so many similar boats racing a win will depend on how good the drivers are."

"If perhaps a Kuwaiti does win the race we will not be upset. We are very keen to race against them, and want them to come to the Dubai race and take us on there as well. The two racing countries should co-operate and compete together."

Joyner-Kersee lives busy life after Seoul

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24, (AP): US Olympic gold-medallist Jackie Joyner-Kersee manages to keep smiling even though she is stuffed in the limousine with her husband, three members of a public relations staff and a reporter.

She is en route from one television show to another, and she's giving an interview between.

Hours earlier, the two-time Olympian addressed a thousand awestruck children at a high school and agreed to three more interviews. Tomorrow, it's the same thing all over again in another city.

Advantage

"I'm tired, but right now my name is out there from what I've done at the Olympic Games," she said. "I plan to take advantage of it."

For many athletes, that means hitting the commercial circuit. For Joyner-Kersee, who's considered the world's greatest female athlete, it will there mean spreading the message that dreams can come true if you try hard enough.

"I feel there's a need for America to have positive role

models. If you're going to go into schools and touch individuals, I feel now is the time," she said. "People only see me competing, but there's another side of me, the one that goes into the community to help steer young people in the right direction."

Joyner-Kersee was raised in a ramshackle home without heat in east St. Louis. That she grew up to earn a degree in history at UCLA, to set a world record in the heptathlon and an Olympic record in the long jump at Seoul, is a testament to her faith in effort.

Because Joyner-Kersee is so openly opposed to drugs, and because she preaches that message to every kid she talks to, she was appalled by a recent television interview in which Brazilian runner Joaquim Cruz suggested she might have used steroids to enhance her performance at Seoul.

"That's absolutely unfair," she said. "He had no right to accuse me of anything. ... I have never used drugs, and I do not take steroids and never have. It's sad to me that people want to point fingers."

Symth beats Chapman in play-off

LA MOYE, Jersey, Oct 24, (Reuters): Irishman Des Smyth scored his first European Tour success in five years when he beat Britain's Roger Chapman with a birdie three on the fifth hole of a play-off in the Jersey Open golf tournament yesterday.

The 35-year-old from Drogheda shot a final round five-under-par 67 to draw level with Chapman who had a 69 as they both finished on 15-under-par 273.

Smyth survived a scare at the third play-off hole when he drove into a bunker but played a brilliant recovery shot and then claimed the title with a six-iron approach to within seven feet of the hole to set up his birdie chance on the final green.

Approached
Britain's Ross McFarlane had earlier looked set to grab the title when he approached the 18th one ahead of Smyth and Chapman.

However his hooked drive hit a spectator and rebound into a bunker from which he needed three shots to recover and the double-bogey six saw him fall to third place alongside fellow Britons Paul Way, Carl Masoor and Neil Hansen.

Victory took Smyth to sixth place in the European Order of Merit and followed second placings in the Dutch and Irish Opens and the West German Masters plus third place in the English Open three weeks ago.

Magee rallies for victory

PENSACOLA, Fla., Oct 24, (Reuters): Andrew Magee came from four strokes back to score his first PGA Tour victory at the \$400,000 Pensacola Open golf tournament yesterday.

Magee shot a closing round of six-under-par 66 for a 17-under-par 271 total. The first victory in four years on the Tour was worth \$72,000 to the 26-year-old Magee who increased his earnings for the year to \$240,354.

"I've been hitting the ball well lately," he said, "and everything was clicking today. I was just trying to have some fun but I must admit I did get some lucky bounces."

Looking
Tom Byrum, the third-day leader by four strokes who was also looking for his first Tour victory, shot a disappointing final round one-under-par 71 for a total of 16-under-par 272 that tied Bruce Lietzke and Keo Green for second place.

Green was even with Magee going into his final hole but three putted from 25 feet for a bogey that cost him a shot at his third victory of the year.

MARINO FAILS TO STOP NEW YORK

Jets and Rams batter opponents

NEW YORK, Oct 24, (AP): To the end, Dan Marino didn't get any of what he was shooting for. The star quarterback of the Miami Dolphins had the biggest passing day of his career and the second-most yardage in National Football League history, 521 yards, 11 waso't enough yesterday as the New York Jets beat the Dolphins 44-30.

Marino's yardage was second to Norm van Brocklin of the Los Angeles Rams, who threw for 554 yards against the New York Yankees in 1951. But Marino also was intercepted five times. Three were taken by Erik McMillan, who returned one 55 yards for a score.

The Jets built a 30-10 halftime lead, getting 24 points in the second quarter. Then Marino really went to work. But each time the Dolphins got within a touchdown, the Jets would score or make a key defensive play.

Elsewhere in the NFL, it was Philadelphia 24, Dallas 23; the New York Giants 23, Atlanta 16; Cincinnati 44, Houston 21; New Orleans 20, the Los Angeles Raiders 6; Buffalo 23, New England 20; Minnesota 49,

Tampa Bay 20, and Detroit 7, Kansas City 6.

At late games, the Los Angeles Rams routed Seattle 31-10; Indianapolis blanked San Diego 16-0; Washington beat Green Bay 20-17, and Cleveland took Phoenix 29-21.

Tonight, San Francisco was at Chicago.

Rams 31, Seahawks 10
Jim Everett continued his superb play, completing 20 of 27 passes for 311 yards and three touchdowns. Everett threw scoring passes of 37 yards to Robert Delino, one yard to Damore Johnson and 32 yards to Aaron Cox. It was the third consecutive game in which Everett has passed for three scores. His 19 touchdown passes tops the NFL and gives him one more than he threw in the 1986 and 1987 seasons combined.

Colts 16, Chargers 0
Eric Dickerson became the eighth NFL player with more than 9,000 career rushing yards, going for 169 at San Diego. Dean Biasucci kicked three field goals and the Colts defense did not allow the Chargers past the Indianapolis 25.

It was the second home shutout for the Chargers, who lost to Denver 12-0 on Oct 2.

Redskins 20, Packers 17

At Milwaukee, Doug Williams made a triumphant return from five weeks on the sidelines after an appendectomy. The Super Bowl Most Valuable Player led Washington to two long second-half scoring drives and Kelvin Bryant rushed for 140 yards. Williams connected on 25 of 43 passes for 225 yards.

The Redskins, 5-3, remained tied with the Giants for first place in the NFC East.

Browns 29, Cardinals 21
Like Williams, Bernie Kosar came back in style. Kosar missed six weeks with an elbow injury, but he threw for 314 yards and three touchdowns yesterday. Kosar, completed 25 of 43 passes, including 20 of 28 for 224 yards in the first half. He hit a 25-yard pass to Reggie Langhorne with 8:14 remaining for the winning points, but also was picked off three times.

Steelers 39, Broncos 21
Pittsburgh ended its longest losing streak 20 seasons at six games as Gary Anderson tied a

club record with six field goals. Denver, playing without the injured John Elway, turned over the ball four times, including three interceptions of replacement quarterback Gary Kubiak.

Eagles 24, Cowboys 23

Host Philadelphia fell behind 20-0 in the first half, but stormed back and won it on Randall Cunningham's 2-yard pass to Anthony Toney with four seconds to go.

Giants 23, Falcons 16

At Atlanta, the Giants were in deep trouble until linebacker Carl Banks bailed them out. The Falcons led 16-9 and faced a third-and-3 at their 32. Chris Miller was hit by Banks as he threw, the ball popped into the air and was intercepted by Harry Carson.

Bengals 44, Oilers 21

At Cincinnati, the Bengals had the biggest first quarter in their history, scoring 28 points, including a pair of touchdown runs by James Brooks. Turnovers set up three of the first-quarter touchdowns as the Bengals, 7-1, took a two-game lead in the AFC Central.

Bills 23, Patriots 20

Buffalo was a kind host for much of the game, then came back to win on Scott Norwood's third field goal, a 33-yarder with 13 seconds to play. The Bills drove 69 yards on their last possession and boosted their AFC East-leading record to 7-1.

Vikings 49, Buccaneers 20

Wade Wilson passed for 335 yards and three touchdowns for visiting Minnesota, which intercepted Vinny Testaverde six times. Testaverde, a second-year pro who talked last week of "turning the corner" after throwing for 469 yards against Indianapolis, completed 19 of 45 passes for 222 yards and one touchdown. The six interceptions gave him 22 for the season, most in the NFL.

Lions 7, Chiefs 6

The two weakest offenses in the League did as expected. Rusty Hilger threw a 14-yard touchdown pass to Jeff Chadwick in the second quarter, just enough to offset a pair of field goals by Nick Lowery. Detroit had lost six consecutive games since opening with a win, while the Chiefs fell to 1-6-1.

Celtics blast Madrid

MADRID, Spain, Oct 24, (AP): For one moment, with the crowd screaming and Madrid peaking, European basketball seemed to have matched the best of the United States yesterday.

European superstar guard Drazen Petrovic sunk a free throw to bring the Spaniards to within six points of the 16-time National Basketball Association champions in the third quarter of the Joston Celtics' exhibition game against Real Madrid. The crowd of 10,150 rose in a frenzied cheer for the home team.

It was the closest Madrid would get before the Celtics defence and three-time NBA Most Valuable Player Larry Bird shut them down with a 22-5 run en route to a 111-96 victory yesterday.

Solid

In yesterday's other game, the Yugoslav national team, led by Zarko Paspalig's 21 points, scored a 100-91 victory over Scavolini Pesaro.

"We had to play good, solid basketball at times to win this game," Celtics coach Jimmy Rodgers said.

The Celtics' victory clinched the second annual McDonald's Basketball Open, the first major NBA-sponsored event outside

the United States.

On Friday, Boston beat the Yugoslav national team 113-85 after a close first half.

"Both of these teams had some big, strong lineups, some excellent players," Rodgers said. "European basketball has really improved."

Rodgers needed strong performances from his five starters, who contributed 75 points to the win and played a minimum of 26 minutes each. But he also got valuable bench help from Brian Shaw, Mark Auer, Jim Paxson and Brad Lohaus.

"Physically, we were able to get a lot of depth. We may have tired them out," Rodgers said.

Rodgers said he was impressed by the crowd at the Madrid Sports Palace.

"There are some really enthusiastic fans here. They seem to know the game of basketball," he said.

Rookie point guard Brian Shaw, who had three steals and six assists and played a tough defensive game, said he had never had a similar experience back home.

"The atmosphere, the crowd, the cheers — it's just different than it is in the United States," Shaw said.

Jahangir squashes Dittmar

SEATTLE, Oct 24, (Reuters): Top seed Jahangir Khan of Pakistan took a step toward regaining his world number one ranking yesterday by beating second-seeded Australian Chris Dittmar of Australia 15-11 15-6 15-10 at the \$40,000 US Open squash championship.

"People who said I might be at the end of my career made the motivation (to regain the number one ranking)," the second-ranked Jahangir said after the victory.

Jahangir had lost just one game — to eighth-seeded Briton Phil Keoyoo in the quarterfinals

— on his way to the final of the 32-player event, while Dittmar advanced to yesterday's showdown without dropping a game.

Dittmar started well and took an early 8-6 lead in the opening game. But Jahangir picked up his game, whipping crosscourts past Dittmar's outstretched racket to win five of the next seven points and take an 11-8 lead.

Dittmar levelled the score as he redropped a Jahangir drop into the nick and capitalised on a rare error by the top seed.

Jahangir then took control, winning the next four points and the first game.

"It was vital for me to win that first game," said Dittmar. "I did a hell of a lot of work and was under pressure the whole time. I know I still would have had to win two more, but winning the first would have made me more confident."

Dittmar appeared dejected after dropping the opening game and Jahangir needed just nine minutes to go 2-0 up.

The Australian put up more of a fight in the final game but Jahangir slammed a crosscourt just out of the second seed's reach on the first of five match points for the victory.

Former boxing great dies

LOS ANGELES, Oct 24, (AP): Heory Armstrong, the only boxer to ever hold three world titles in separate weight divisions at the same time, has died of heart failure after a lengthy illness. He was 75.

Armstrong, who made hundreds of thousands of dollars during his 15-year pro career but was reduced to living with his wife on an \$800 monthly government pension, died on Saturday at California Medical Centre.

"He's resting, and all his miseries are gone," said wife Gussie Armstrong.

Armstrong fought 174 bouts

in a career that began in 1931, winning 145, 98 by knockout. Opponents and fight fans knew him as "Homicide" Hank, "Perpetual Motion" Hurricane Henry and the "Punching Preacher."

The fighter who simultaneously held world featherweight, welterweight and lightweight titles in 1938 spent most of 1988 confined to a hospital bed in six separate stays to treat a variety of ailments.

"It was just a matter of time for Henry," said Dr. Abe Green, a kidney specialist who began looking after Armstrong a year ago.

Camacho wins

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, Oct 24, (AP): Hector "Macho" Camacho, a former world champion in two divisions, came back from a 16-month layoff to defeat Canadiana junior welterweight Rick Souce via a technical knockout in the fourth round of a 10-round bout.

Referee Mariano Soto stopped the fight, held on Saturday night in nearby Bayamon, after Souce suffered a deep cut over the left eyebrow.

In the third round, the Canadian fighter was bleeding from the nose and at the end of the fight his left cheek was badly bruised.

Spinks learning the ropes in a new trade

DETROIT, Oct 24, (AP): Former world heavyweight champion Len Spinks is learning the ropes in a new trade: bartending.

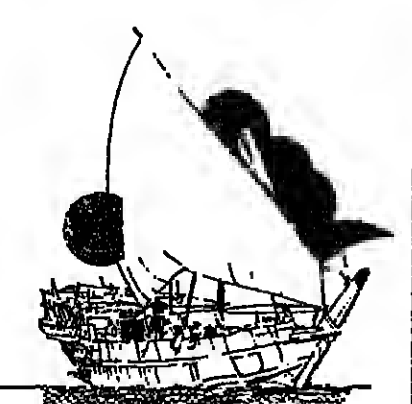
Spinks upset Muhammad Ali in 1978 and held the heavyweight boxing title until Ali won it back seven months later. But all his money is gone now, and the erstwhile millionaire is attending bartending school here and getting practice at mixing drinks and conversation instead of punches.

He carries a large green bucket to fill a cooler with ice cubes, turns on the television to join down winning lottery numbers that he writes on a chalkboard behind the bar. He mixes drinks and carries them gingerly to waiting customers.

"Serving drinks can be the hardest thing; they've got a lot of drinks out there," Spinks said. "Weird drinks. Different colours and whatnot. Some things you would never drink."

He has been impressive during his four-week internship at Arietha's Lounge, owner Arietha Deloach said.

"He's not so proud to work after the fact that he had been a millionaire," she said. "He's back to square one now. He is very dependable. He's a people's person. Everyone likes him."



AL-HAMBRA
Wednesday
Buffet

Seafood

A mouth-watering display of the finest seafood every Wednesday evening in Al Hambra. Entertainment by the Marcus Band.

فندق شيراتون الكويت
Kuwait Sheraton Hotel
The hospitality people of Kuwait



Compton: prepared for 'unexpected dangers'

Kuwait boat to take part in international race

By Fathima Ahmed

A KUWAITI flag boat will for the first time participate in an international sailing race for amateurs next month.

The 12 and-a-half foot Gulf Sirocco, sailed by Mike Compton, will participate in the Atlantic Rally for Amateur Cruisers which begins on Nov 20 in Las Palmas, Canary Islands.

Speed
More than 200 boats from around the world, all sailed by amateurs, are expected to take part in the 2,700 nautical mile rally, going southwest from Canary Islands, plying the trade wind route, heading for Barbados, where the race ends. They will cruise at a speed of six to seven knots an hour. The rally is expected to last approximately four weeks.

Mike Compton, an expatriate Briton living in Kuwait, will head the four-masted crew of Gulf Sirocco. Compton, who has been sailing for 10 years, bought the Sirocco in 1986 and registered it

in Kuwait.

Compton has previously sailed to several other races, including the Channel Race in the UK, winning the second race. He also won a Kuwait-Bahrain Race.

Compton will be accompanied by three other expatriates. They will leave shortly for the Atlantic Rally. The team is rather enthusiastic and is prepared for the "unexpected dangers" they might encounter at sea.

Concerned
"You can't be indifferent, you can't be relaxed or over-confident — but one can't be seriously concerned either. We are well prepared and are looking forward to the rally," said Compton.

The KD.35,000 (about £70,000) Sirocco has been equipped with all the safety gadgets — life rafts, life buoys and fire extinguishers and other equipment needed for the hazardous journey, which Compton and his crew hope would be an exciting adventure at sea.



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